FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 040 28 February 1983

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

Italian Paper Interviews CPSU's Zagladin AA 1
[Rome PAESE SERA 24 Jan]
Moscow TV Outlines Soviet, Pact MBFR Proposals AA 8
[Ovchinnikov]
SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA on Opposition to Euromissiles AA 9
[Shishkin, 24 Feb]
U.S.-USSR START Delegations Meet 24 Feb AA 11
U.S.-USSR INF Delegations Meet in Geneva AA 11

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' CC 1
[Kobysh, Shishlin, Levin]
Nuclear Arms Limitation CC 1
Japan-USSR Economic Ties CC 5
Cheysson Visit, French Relations CC 6
Moscow TV's 26 February 'Studio 9' Program CC 7
[Zorin, Velikhov, Kobysh]
Global Problems CC 7
Nuclear War Threat CC 9
U.S. Anti-Communist 'Crusade' CC 11
U.S. Peace Movement CC 13
Soviet Nuclear Pledge CC 17
Shitikov Participates in Geneva IPU Meeting CC 18
[IZVESTIYA 18 Feb]

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Reagan Reiterates Zero Option 'Sympathy' A 1
SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA on Reagan's Arms Curb Stance A 1
[Bulantsev, 25 Feb]
George Shultz' Speech in Atlanta Cited A 2
[Yegorov]
KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on Weinberger's 'Fabrications' A 3
Fesunenko Views 1984 Presidential Race, Candidates A 4
U.S. Reportedly Increasing Troops in W. Europe A 5
[Serebrennikov]
PRAVDA on U.S.-Canada Military Cooperation A 6
[Bra in, 15 Feb]

CHINA

PRC's Qian Qichen Arrives for Talks 27 Feb B 1
Greeted by Ilichev [PRAVDA 28 Feb] B 1
PRC Reportage [cross-reference] B 1
NOVOYE VREMYA Notes PRC Move on U.S. Loan Case B 1
[No 18, 18 Feb]
Soviet Diplomats Lay Wreaths in PRC Cities B 1

EASTERN EUROPE

Rome Paper Cites CPCZ, MSZMP Aides on Andropov F 1
[LA REPUBBLICA 22 Feb]
Moscow Meeting Marks Hungary Treaty Jubilee F 2
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 18 Feb]
1982 Polish Economy Figures Reported F 3
PRAVDA Notes Trial of Solidarity Radio Figures [18 Jan] F 3
Polish-Soviet Friendship Society's Anniversary F 3
Zimyanin Receives Wronski F 3
Groups Sign Protocol F 4
Tikhonov Cables Zhivkov, Ceausescu During Trip F 4
Zamyatin Received by SED's Axen in Berlin F 4
[PRAVDA 25 Feb]

WESTERN EUROPE

Further Reports, Comments on Tikhonov's Greece Visit G 1
PRAVDA on Results [27 Feb] G 1
IZVESTIYA Assesses Results [26 Feb] G 2
IZVESTIYA on Greek Reaction [Lipovoy, 26 Feb] G 2
PRAVDA Comments on Result of Cheysson's Visit G 4
Anti-Soviet Trends in FRG Campaign Criticized G 4
[Pavlov]

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

United States To Increase Lebanon Contingent H 1
[Gubernatorov, Morozov]
TASS Commentary [Vasilyev] H 1
IZVESTIYA on U.S. 'Provocation' Against Libya H 1
Security Council U.S.-Libya Debate Noted H 2
[Vasilets]
Kuwait National Day Celebration Held in Moscow H 3
Kuwaiti Ambassador Statement H 4
Arab TU, AUCCTU Delegations Meet in Moscow H 5
Communique Issued H 5
Gulf Petroleum Ministers Meet in Riyadh H 6
[Mikheyev]
Briefs: Cultural Cooperation With PDRY H 6

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Shcherbitskiy Examines Achievements, Tasks R 1
[PRAVDA UKRAINY 16 Feb]
Roy Medvedev Views Andropov Regime's Work Style R 7
[Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER 22 Feb]
Bagirov Speaks on Nationalities, Progress R 11
[BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY 15 Dec]

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

January Industrial Plan Fulfillment Figures S 1
[EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 8]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Irkutsk Obkom on Agricultural 'Shortcomings' T 1
[Yermolayev in PRAVDA 23 Feb]
Agriculture Making 'Noticeable' Progress T 3

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Soviet Union Launches 'Cosmos-1442' Satellite U 1
Seventh 1983 Earthquake Reported in Tajikstan U 1
Briefs: Antipollution Program; U 1
Soviet-Mongolian Television Cooperation

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

New Soviet Sub Missile Successfully Tested [AFP] V 1
Text of Ustinov Anniversary Order of Day V 1
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Feb]
Yepishev Signs Reserve General's Obituary V 3
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 16 Feb]
Conference of Military Tribunal Chairmen Held V 3
[Morozov in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 4 Feb]

ITALIAN PAPER INTERVIEWS CPSU'S ZAGLADIN

WA281500 Rome PAESE SERA in Italian 24 Jan 83 pp 1, 3

[Interview by Giorgio Fanti with Vladimir Zagladin, number-two man on the CPSU's foreign affairs commission and an expert on European issues, in Paris, 23 January 1983: "Watch Those Missiles"]

[Text] Zagladin answers questions on:

1. Afghanistan: "A political solution is possible now, and it will make it possible to withdraw our troops."

2. Missiles: "If the Pershings are deployed in Europe, we shall take countermeasures vis-a-vis the United States."

3. Europe: In Germany and elsewhere, there is strong support for dialogue."

4. Italian CP: "We want good relations, but we are not in agreement on the forceful push forward."

In an interview with our Paris correspondent on the occasion of a gathering at the Institute for Marxist Studies (IRM) there last week, Vadim Zagladin answered questions on the major issues on the world situation agenda: from the question of Euromissiles and the status of [arms] negotiations to Afghanistan; from the events in Poland to relations with the Western communist parties, and with the Italian Communist Party in particular.

While Zagladin fits comfortably into the groove of continuity in latter-day Soviet policy, it is nonetheless clear that there is a new kind of energy marking the leadership that has taken over from Brezhnev. Of particular interest in this interview are the references to a possible withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in the not-too-distant future, depending on the status of negotiations with Pakistan, while the danger attendant on the collapse of the Geneva disarmament negotiations emerges with stark clarity, portending the inevitable and immediate resumption of the race for new, more sophisticated, and ever more deadly weapons systems. As for relations with the Italian Communists, the Soviet spokesman's tone is open and affable. He argues that the CPSU is already talking frankly and openly about its own limitations and its stubborn and intractable contradictions. He gets the impression, however, that the Italian Communists are seeing only that side of the coin.

Paris, 24 January. Yesterday I met with Zagladin, number-two man on the CPSU's foreign policy commission and expert on the European communist parties, all of which he knows inside out. The occasion for our meeting is explained in the text. We talked at length and with a great degree of frankness, as we are accustomed to do. What I report here is his replies to direct questions, with reference to the discussion which followed some of them.

[Question] Everywhere in the world, reaction to "proposals" for disarmament has been immediate and interest is running high. What do you think of them?

[Answer] On the whole, I think they are a very good thing. There is an impression that Reagan has taken the "need to close the window of vulnerability" as the pretext for his rearmament policy. Andropov's disarmament proposals, it seems to me, are perceived by world opinion as "opening the window to security."

[Question] Here in Europe we have a special case in the French and the Germans. Both governments, one Socialist-led, the other headed by Christian Democrats, still support Reagan's "zero option." Why in the world are they doing this, in your view?

[Answer] That's hard to say. Insofar as the FRG is concerned, though, it seems to me that the country is divided and that perhaps the larger share opposes the government's positions -- from the Social Democrats to the Communists to the labor unions to the "Greens." Basically, I am not at all surprised that Kohl and his government have encountered as much opposition as they have: They have always been pro-American. Even so, the logical contradiction remains great: If the Pershings are deployed in FRG, Federal Germany will be moving toward insecurity rather than the contrary.

[Question] Kohl, though, says that he wants to continue his Ostpolitik toward the countries of the East...

[Answer] That policy, plus the treaties that have been signed, rule out any need for Germany to have the Pershings.

[Question] Then why the "zero option"?

[Answer] I can understand that there are Germans who are afraid of the Soviet missiles. But even in this case, although it is without foundation given the existing treaties, while our proposals provide for the reduction in numbers of missiles and of nuclear warheads, the "zero option," absent the Geneva agreement, would involve an increase, rather than a reduction in arms. Our missiles will then be aimed first at Federal Germany, the only country where the Pershings are slated for deployment.

[Question] France, although in a radically different situation, has also come out in favor of the "zero option." Why is this, in your view?

[Answer] For that you'll have to ask the French. They say they do not belong to NATO, and do not want to get involved in matters that do not concern them. Yet in Washington, [Defense Minister Charles] Hernu defends the NATO positions. There is an internal contradiction in their positions, a most un-Cartesian illogic.

[Question] Mightn't the explanation lie in the scrapping of their earlier strategic criteria -- "sanctuarization," the all-azimuth defense -- in favor of "the forward battle" and the one-azimuth defense?

[Answer] I don't know, even if there is a possible explanation. France has always been a country traditionally friendly toward the Soviet Union, whereas the "forward battle" presupposes one single enemy, an enemy in the East, an enemy that is the Soviet Union. There is no way out of the contradiction.

[Question] The American papers are saying that back in July, when Brezhnev was still alive, their negotiator at Geneva, [Paul] Nitze, reportedly suggested a compromise with the Soviets which Reagan then blocked...

[Answer] Insofar as I know, and I believe I do know, there has never been an inch of progress at Geneva on the Euromissile question. The Americans have never budged from the "zero option." The American press confirms that a major part of public opinion there is hoping for a compromise. The problem is to decide which compromise; the deployment of a single Pershing missile in Federal Germany would radically alter the strategic and political situation. We have to find a solution that is truly acceptable to both sides, which gives neither of them the advantage by even a single delivery system or a single nuclear warhead, and which instead improves the security of all in that it involves a visible reduction, rather than an increase, in the numbers of weapons on both sides.

[Question] Your people keep saying that the French and British missiles must be counted in the European balance. In London and Paris, they think otherwise...

[Answer] I am fully aware that the problem is not merely quantitative. We know that France is not in NATO, but it is a member of the Atlantic alliance. Could we just overlook that? I don't think so.

[Question] But the SS-20's have three warheads apiece, while the French and English missiles have only one...

[Answer] That's not true. The British have two nuclear submarines equipped with Polaris A3T missiles, each with three warheads, and two more submarines carrying A3TK missiles, each with six warheads. And they have already begun to modify the first two so they can also carry the A3TK.

[Question] France isn't doing that...

[Answer] Oh yes it is: There are already the 18 missiles on the Plaine d'Albion, and the others on submarines. But the new generation of missiles on the new submarines, which have already been launched, will have seven warheads each.

[Question] Since you have to take them into account, the French and British missiles, won't it then be necessary to associate France and Britain with the Geneva Euromissile negotiations?

[Answer] For the time being, the discussions concern only ourselves and the Americans, because the talks concern theater nuclear forces of both countries. If France and Britain express a desire to talk about this with us, the USSR will certainly not draw back.

[Question] Yet another problem: on one side one nuclear power, and on the other side three...

[Answer] The historical process that has led to this situation is what it is: in the Atlantic alliance three, in the Warsaw Pact only one nuclear power. These days, though, we make a joke of it, and start wondering whether it wouldn't be better for us, too, to have three countries equipped with nuclear weapons.

[Question] Have you any plans to move in that direction?

[Answer] No plans, because the logic that would force upon us is aberrant per se. But we should be forced to go back and start thinking it through from the beginning if the strategic situation were to change. We shall have to respond to the missiles that would be deployed in Germany and in the other four countries. In the second place, given the fact that these are American missiles that can strike Soviet territory, we should have to see to it that American security would be in the same situation as our own.

[Question] Missiles in Cuba again?

[Answer] Modern technology makes different solutions possible.

[Question] Is that an illusion to the possibility of arming satellites?

[Answer] No. We are opposed to violating agreements that have been signed. If there is something with plans of that kind, you must look for him in the United States.

[Question] Well, then, what are the major thrusts of Soviet foreign policy?

[Answer] First of all, peace, first of all, disarmament: Those are the two top priorities. Aside from that, and generalizing considerably, I can say that we have two primary goals: to eliminate the breeding-grounds of war, or to eliminate wars that already exist. The great powers are not directly involved, but in this nuclear era, any conflict is fraught with peril...

[Question] One such breeding-ground is Afghanistan...

[Answer] True, and the danger is great because we already have constant intervention in Afghanistan by other countries, such as the United States, and that intervention is what caused us to send our troops in. Today, though, we have moved into a new phase: contacts are under way between Afghanistan and Pakistan, and a political solution is possible that will put a stop to foreign intervention and permit us to withdraw our troops.

[Question] Is that solution near?

[Answer] That's hard to say, partly because we are not involved in the talks. I do know, though, that the Afghan Government wants to reach a political solution as quickly as possible.

[Question] You talked about the first thrust of Soviet foreign policy. What is the second?

[Answer] To broaden detente, to enjoy good relations with all countries, even the United States. But underlying all our foreign policy, the bedrock on which the whole structure stands, are relations with the socialist countries...

[Question] Does that include China?

[Answer] That is certainly an important problem. Brezhnev underscored it, and Andropov, in his first speech as party chairman, renewed our commitment to normalize these relations. We have had a first round of meetings. Now we shall have the second. The solution has yet to be found, but we are not pessimistic. China and the USSR are the two great countries in Eurasia, two countries that have traditionally been friends, and the Chinese revolution had our support from the start. There are no antagonistic contradictions between us, and we have no feud with China.

[Question] The other problem is Poland. What is your assessment of the present situation?

[Answer] It seems to me that right now there is room for optimism. We have always maintained that Poland's communists were quite capable of coping with a situation, even so grave a one as that which faced them. There are still some major problems to be solved, but things are tending to improve: the Polish comrades will succeed, in fact they are succeeding.

[Question] How can there be a solution without the agreement of all three parties, the government, the workers and their free self-determination, and the Catholic Church?

[Answer] Our principle is not to intervene in the internal affairs of a sovereign state.

[Question] Your foreign relations have to do with more than just governments. They have to do with parties as well, particularly with communist parties. There is one CP in Europe, the French one, which is a participant in an Atlantist government's foreign policy, and another CP, the Italian one, which maintains that the "great push forward of October 1917 is spent." What has gone wrong in your relations with the Western CPs?

[Answer] Those are two different questions. The French CP is part of a government of the left, and we think that is a major achievement, and not just for France. Hence I should not like to see my answers or my silence become any kind of impediment to the experiment now under way. As for the Italian CP, we have always striven to maintain good relations because we know it so well, and have known it for so long -- ever since its birth: we know its struggles, its needs, its traditions. Of course there are some very serious problems right now, there are positions with which we cannot agree. As for the great October thrust forward, I repeat what I said in Italy: this is not a subjective question; that force exists, its achievements are there for all to see.

There are flaws, there are gaps, there have been errors: We know that, and we are working to set them right, have been working at that ever since the 20th congress. The CPSU, now more than ever, is talking openly and frankly of the limitations we face, of the difficulties and contradictions we must deal with. You cannot, in our view, go on staring obsessively at one side of the coin to the point where you forget there is another side to it, the side that is by far the more important, and this it what we perceive the Italian comrades as doing. We celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Soviet socialist state, and we listened to the speeches of 138 delegations, which almost unanimously underscored the point that the forward drive of true socialism is a fact. During these past few days here in Paris I took part in this meeting.

[Question] What was it all about?

[Answer] It is a study conference at the Marxist Institute (IRM) devoted to "Marx and the Liberation of Man." This is certainly no time to be holding forth about the USSR. But a number of comrades -- Europeans, Africans, Latin Americans, Asians -- cited the USSR to say: here is something important, something that spurs us to struggle, that gives us a driving force."

[Question] I asked you what it is that has gone awry in your relations with the various CPs. You answerd me case by case. Wouldn't it be more helpful if you were to look for the common roots, the common sources, from which these problems spring? For instance, [the conflict] between party and government, which is to say between ideals and planning, on the one hand, and between actually achieving the goal and practical compromise on the other. That is an issue still left open in your country, where party and state are inextricably mingled with each other. It is an open issue in France, where the PCF's participation in the government relegates principles to a subordinate role. It is an open issue in Italy, where the PCI sometimes seems to be seeking somewhere outside its own policies for its legitimacy in government.

[Answer] No, no: there is a difference with us. Even the constitution says so, and the laws sanction it. The party's leadership role is one thing, and it is obvious, but the autonomy of the state is another, and just as clear. We say that the party operates within the structure of the law and of the constitution.

[Question] Proof that the problem exists is the fact that Andropov's disarmament proposals came from the secretary-general of the party, rather than from the head of government, Nikolay Tikhonov.

[Answer] But in our country it is the party that plays the leadership role, and hence the party that lays down the guidelines for policy. Viewed from our concept and our point of view, that is altogether fitting and proper. Indeed, this role of the party is our advantage, since the party brings together the people in our society who are better prepared more aware, most highly qualified. Party members have no special rights not open to other citizens, no privileges; but duty, yes. It is their duty to do a better job than the others could.

[Question] Well, then, what about the "nomenkaltura"?

[Answer] I know what people have written about that. But you can't believe everything you read in the papers. Are there not books published in the West that reveal astounding things going on in the Western countries? A lot of them, and they's worthless. And every bit as worthless are those that talk of a Soviet "nomenkaltura."

[Question] My last question had to do with all the communist parties, not just yours. Is it right that to settle a problem of changing leadership or shifting policy lines you should wait upon the decisions of the Lord God, for those who believe in him? Your general secretaries are replaced only when nature takes a hand. Isn't that some indication that the [party's] structure and its internal dialectic are in need of some re-thinking?

[Answer] If other parties feel a need to change leaders, that's their business. As for us, though, the question never arises. When there is a need to replace somebody who is not doing a good job, we replace him. And the replacement comes about as a function of the policy that is pursued, a policy which has led, through continuity, to considerable achievement.

[Question] Yet these changes, in foreign policy and in domestic policy, came about when Andropov succeeded Brezhnev...

[Answer] There have been no changes in the line. What we are doing now is nothing more or less than implementing the decisions of the 26th Congress. This is 1983, new problems arise, and each individual has his own way of dealing with them. At most, there is a change of style: Andropov is not Brezhnev, as dear old M de Lapalisse would say.

[Question] PRAVDA these days seems to be more open to criticism from the rank and file...

[Answer] There you are: Once again, it was the 26th Congress that voted to improve base-to-summit and summit-to-base relations. Take, for example, the letters, which we have always published. The difference today is that they are answered more promptly.

[Question] What, then, is the major thrust of your domestic policy?

[Answer] First of all, the emphasis on efficiency, Andropov said it back on 22 November: We in the Soviet Union have enough of everything we need, but we have yet to learn to make full use of our great potential. Second imperative: follow through on decisions once made, to see that they are put into effect more expeditiously.

[Question] In the West, the USSR is described as a country in crisis...

[Answer] We have our problems, as we have had them before and will have them at every phase in our history. But they are nothing like the crisis problems you are going through in the West.

[Question] What about the problems surrounding the nationalities question, for example, which Andropov cited?

[Answer] Just a minute: We are proud that the nationalities question, in the sense in which it used to be raised in the past, has been settled. But now, Andropov says, the problem is no longer one of equal rights for the various nationalities. The problem is one of development for each of them, in all directions, while at the same time deepening their mutual interconnectedness.

[Question] I seem to recollect that Andropov said something more than that -- something new: that the national problem will still be with you, even when social classes have vanished.

[Answer] Engels said long ago that the nation is the historic classification with the longest life. That, however, was an abstract idea, which must now be made concrete, and furthermore Andropov said it on the basis of the experience we have accumulated. It has already been discussed in the Supreme Soviet, when somebody raised the matter of the little national groups, which must get help so that they, too, can achieve full realization of their potential.

[Question] I'd like to go back to the economic aspects of the crisis. You reject that term for the Soviet Union. But what about agriculture, then?

[Answer] It is true that we are having difficulties, that we have problems, but these are specifically our own problems, not problems related to the general capitalist crisis. While our farm production is showing a deficit, overall it is increasing every year, even when the harvest is poor. Grain production may drop, but fruit yields from groves and orchards is up, and on the whole we are making progress. The trouble is that we are not making enough progress, because our needs are expanding far faster. The farm program now aims at making the country wholly self-sufficient.

[Question] Why should the crisis affect only the West, and not you?

[Answer] Why, even Western experts admit that capitalism is in a crisis as a system. We Soviets believe, in fact, that its crisis is touching its outermost limits. The enormous potential of your work force cannot be realized because most of it is institutionalized. And then, take the fundamental given, the one that ultimately decides everything: the individual. His first need is to live, and therefore to work for a living. When unemployment hits the depths it has in the West, it is the essential productive force, the individual, who is hardest hit, who is utterly undone: that is decadence.

[Question] There is no unemployment in the Soviet Union?

[Answer] There are 270 million of us, and not a single one is unemployed. The last jobless man who registered at the labor exchange in Moscow is an old worker, who is now busy writing his memoirs to record his experiences in the old days. How many people live in the Western industrial countries? Perhaps twice as many we we have, yet you have 305 million out of work, and you in Italy alone have 2.5 million jobless.

[Question] You're not saying, are you, that things are going better in the Soviet Union than in our countries?

[Answer] I wouldn't even dream of it: there are problems, I repeat, and they keep cropping up at every step we take...

[Question] You also have problems with exporting your model to the other East European countries -- witness Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia...

[Answer] That is not our fault, or at least not ours alone, that people elsewhere have decided to build a copy of the Soviet society. There are transcripts of Stalin's conversations with the Polish and Czech leaders of his day, and what he said to them was: do it differently. There has been diversification, even though there have also been painful tragedies, and it will go on, each one pursuing it on his own road.

[Question] In short, a "globally positive" bottom line, as Marchais would say?

[Answer] Building socialism is a long-term undertaking, a heroic task even in the wake of the drive and enthusiasms of the Revolution. It is 65 years, now, since that October. What was happening in the world 75 years after the bourgeois revolution of 1789? The Restoration, and a mostly feudal Europe. And 65 years after Cromwell's revolution in England? Nothing. Yet, 65 years after October, the world has changed, and it will go on changing, which means that the internal energy of that event has only begun to yield its fruits.

MOSCOW TV OUTLINES SOVIET, PACT MBFR PROPOSALS

LD272238 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Feb 83

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by PRAVDA political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] The socialist countries have just put forward specific new proposals at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and weapons in central Europe. Eleven states are now in their 10th year of talks in Vienna on how to lower the level of military confrontation in the center of Europe, where there is an excessively high concentration of troops and weapons for peacetime.

But deadlock has resulted from the fruitless and indeed senseless arguments which have been imposed upon us by our Western partners about who has how many soldiers there at the present time. And so, in order to overcome this artificially created barrier of figures the socialist countries have proposed an approach which is basically new and which makes it possible to return to the core of the problem, that is to the aim which brought together the participants in the talks in Vienna back in 1973.

Three main points can be singled out from these proposals. The main point is to agree on a reduction of NATO and Warsaw Treaty armed forces in central Europe to equal collective levels, regardless of discrepancies in the number of their troops at the present moment. That is, each country has the right to decide for itself the volume of the reductions. It is important only that in total each country should have in central Europe no more than 900,000 personnel in its armed forces, including 700,000 land forces. In this way, instead of initial figures which give rise to argument, two final reference points only are being put forward on which those taking part in the Vienna talks have already achieved mutual understanding.

So, in view of the simplicity and practicality of such an approach, an agreement could be formulated fairly quickly, over a period of 1 year for example. This also applies to agreeing on mutually acceptable measures for verification.

Second, it is proposed that the Soviet Union and the United States should, as an initial step, reduce their armed forces this year on the basis of mutual example. This would break the deadlock while an agreement is being formulated which would embrace all the direct participants in the Vienna talks.

The Soviet Union has already unilaterally withdrawan from the GDR 20,000 military personnel and 1,000 tanks. Now it is ready over a period of 1 year to withdraw from central Europe a further 20,000 personnel if the United States withdraws over the same period 13,000 personnel from its ground forces in that region.

First practical steps toward lowering the level of military confrontation in Europe would demonstrate the seriousness of the intentions of the sides and would strengthen the faith of the European peoples in the final success of the talks and would make it possible to accumulate useful experience for the future.

Of course, Soviet-U.S. reductions on the basis of mutual example demand one further condition. They could lose their meaning if they were not accompanied by a freeze on the level of troops and weaponry of all the direct participants in the Vienna talks, and this indeed is the third point in the proposals. After the initial steps by the Soviet Union and the United States no one must undertake an activity which runs contrary to the task of lowering the numbers of troops of the two military and political alliances to equal collective levels.

Incidentally, this is graphic confirmation of how step by step, from frontier to frontier, what both our friends and our adversaries call the peace offensive is gaining force. When the Soviet Union unilaterally adopted the pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and called on others to follow its example, the Western powers, to justify their refusal, began to assert that this would enable the Soviet Union to deliver a first strike using conventional armed forces.

When the socialist countries proposed to NATO members to enshrine in a treaty the pledge not to use either nuclear or conventional weapons against each other there was uproar in Western capitals, this proposal allegedly being unacceptable owing to the enormous numerical superiority of Soviet troops in central Europe.

Now the socialist countries are proposing a simple path for agreement on reducing armed forces and weapons belonging to the two military and political groups to equal collective levels so that it is becoming increasingly difficult for the NATO strategists to find grounds for sabotaging the peace-loving initiatives.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA ON OPPOSITION TO EUROMISSILES

PM241443 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[Gennadiy Shishkin "International Review": "Europe Against Missiles"]

[Text] This year has a special place in Europe's history. There is every reason to suppose that it is the decisive year in determining not only the future of the continent's peoples, but also the destiny of the whole world.

Europe rightly enjoys a reputation as the ancient center of world civilization and progress in all spheres of human activity, the continent where the first industrial revolution took place, where most outstanding discoveries were made and where a socialist revolution took place for the first time. Europe accounts for approximately 47 percent of the world's national income and some (?58) percent of world industrial production.

At the same time it must not be forgotten that the history of the European Continent has been endless numbers of wars, big and small, including two world wars. True, Europe has been living in peace for nearly 37 years now. But it is an armed peace. Huge stockpiles of nuclear and conventional weapons are concentrated on the territory of European countries. As the center of the direct confrontation between the two systems, Europe faces an unprecedented threat.

This danger increased still further when, after the initial successes of the detente policy in the seventies, the Reagan administration set itself the goal of reversing the process of historical development. Washington announced a "crusade" against socialism, and NATO arsenals began to accumulate mountains of new weapons, first and foremost weapons of mass destruction. American imperialism's desire to wreck the existing military equilibrium between the Soviet Union and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, to hold a position of strength and to dictate its will to other countries, including at the conference table, clearly lies behind all this.

Guided by these ambitions, the United States imposed the so-called "dual decision" on its NATO partners in December 1979, whereby West European countries agreed that the United States should deploy 572 new American nuclear missiles in the FRG, Britain, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands starting in December 1983 if no agreement is reached by that time at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on medium-range nuclear systems. In Washington this frank demand for the United States to achieve superiority over the Soviet Union was cynically described as "arms upgrading."

In fact, by dragging Western Europe into the latest round of the nuclear missile arms race, the United States seeks, on the one hand, to shift a significant proportion of the arms race burden onto Western Europe, and on the other hand, to turn Europe into the most likely region for a nuclear missile war between the two sociopolitical systems. This is indicated by the "limited nuclear war" doctrine proclaimed by Washington and by the scenario elaborated by Pentagon strategists for a "Eurostrategic war," which, according to their calculations, should enable the United States to achieve its global aims with no risk of being destroyed itself in the war. The American Pershing II missiles which are intended for deployment on West German territory are designed to play the part of the main means of implementing these wild plans. "Thanks to the short flight time of only a few minutes and the high accuracy of their warheads," THE NEW YORK TIMES writes, "they can be used effectively even to hit such targets as command and control centers and missile silos." Thus, the newspaper suggests, "the waging of the proposed 'limited nuclear war' becomes more realistic."

In the United States itself these criminal plans and doctrines are meeting with the opposition of all sensible people. Two well-known American physicists who are experts in the field of nuclear weapons, H. Bethe and K. Gottfried, have condemned the Reagan government, "which believes that our country is really capable of 'gaining the upper hand' in a nuclear war." Stressing that these calculations are based on false premises, they write in THE WASHINGTON POST: "In military terms, the Weinberger doctrine does not take account of the fact that any nuclear war -- however limited -- can escalate into a strategic war as soon as strategic nuclear weapons are launched; an escalation leading to universal catastrophe will become quite likely."

As for Western Europe, there not only the broad public, but many representatives of the ruling circles are very well aware that Washington's hopes of securing victory in a nuclear war are based on plans to shift the theater of such a war to Europe. Naturally, these criminal designs cannot but alarm West Europeans. Not for nothing does the Italian magazine PANORAMA write: "American strategy in the arms sphere gambles increasingly on Europe in order to remove the prospect of nuclear destruction from the American Continent. The deployment of a huge number of nuclear warheads in Europe (7,000 in Western Europe alone), the strengthening of military bases and the deployment of new American missiles intended specifically for military operations on our continent have proved convincingly that America does not exclude the possibility of unleashing a limited war in Europe."

Reflecting the sentiments of millions of West Europeans, the FRG magazine STERN wrote the other day: "Here we are sitting on a powder keg, and we don't want it to explode. San Francisco may survive, but there will be nothing left of us, and after all, ultimately this is our country."

Against the background of these sinister prospects, there is a growing conviction in Western Europe and throughout the world that a just, honest resolution of the nuclear arms limitation problem on our continent is the decisive component, in present conditions, in strengthening European security. Such a proposal, without detriment to anyone's security, has been made by the Soviet Union. It was our country which put forward the true zero option, proposing to conclude an agreement on renouncing all types of nuclear weapons designed to hit targets in Europe -- both medium-range and tactical. In view of the fact that the West did not respond to this initiative, the Soviet Union also put forward another option, namely, for medium-range arms in Europe to be reduced by more than two-thirds.

The constructive Soviet initiatives have met with the widest support not only in Western Europe, but in the United States. Conversely, as the well-known American observer J. Kraft notes, "the Reagan administration's bellicose actions and statements have led to the development of a peace movement in Europe and in our country.

"Finding himself under pressure, the President put forward his own proposals at arms control talks with the Russians. But these proposals, by all appearances, are intended not so much to ensure the successful holding of talks with Moscow as to make the defenders of peace shut up."

One can only add that in 15 months of talks in Geneva the American side has not budged an inch from its absolutely unrealistic "zero option," which amounts in effect to unilateral disarmament by the Soviet Union. All this indicates that what the United States wants is not to reach agreement with the Soviet Union, but to deploy American missiles in Western Europe, which would have the inevitable consequence of stepping up the arms race and the danger of military confrontaton.

All this could not fail to lead to the further exacerbation of contradictions between the United States and Western Europe. It is no accident that STERN writes: "For the first time since World War II American and European interests are diametrically opposed. Washington is pulling backward, toward the cold war, while Europeans are almost unanimous in refusing to take part in that crusade." In this connection it is highly symptomatic that Vogel, the Social Democratic Party of Germany's candidate for the post of FRG chancellor, sent a special message to U.S. President R. Reagan. Noting that the well-known proposals by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, "contain constructive elements," he appeals to Reagan to "show initiative on your side now and put forward a counterproposal at the Geneva talks so as to make progress possible." In the United States itself the well-known American public figure Scoville, who formerly held the post of deputy CIA director, writes in THE LOS ANGELES TIMES: "If Reagan really seriously wants to reduce nuclear missiles in Europe, Yu.V. Andropov's proposal must be studied. It creates many opportunities for important reductions and even for achieving a situation with a genuine 'zero-zero' correlation."

The American weekly NEWSWEEK has named 1983 "European protest year." For all its prejudice in relation to the participants in the antiwar movement, this bourgeois magazine was forced to note: "Throughout the European Continent activists in the peace movement are joining the struggle, on the basis of well thought out organization. In 1983 Europe can expect a wave of antinuclear protests and political actions."

The year 1983 is the decisive year of protest and struggle not only for Europe, but for the United States too. The American physicists Bethe and Gottfried, mentioned above, stress: "The explosion of public support for a nuclear weapons freeze gives a sufficiently loud and clear signal. It declares: 'Stop the arms race. We want no more of it!'" Acting under this slogan, the participants in the antiwar movement both in Western Europe and in the United States draw strength and confidence from the concrete proposals and practical actions of the Soviet Union, which demonstrates good will and the desire for an honest, just agreement.

U.S.-USSR START DELEGATIONS MEET 24 FEB

LD241309 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Geneva, February 24 TASS -- The delegations of the USSR and the USA have met here today in a plenary meeting at the talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic arms.

U.S.-USSR INF DELEGATIONS MEET IN GENEVA

LD251349 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Geneva February 25 TASS -- The delegations of the USSR and the United States to the Soviet-American negotiations on limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe held a plenary meeting.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD271514 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0945 GMT 27 Feb 83

["International Observers Roundtable" program with international affairs journalists Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh, Nikolay Vladimorivich Shishlin and Viktor Nikolayevich Levin]

[Text] [Levin] Hello, esteemed comrade radio listeners. If one turns to the main international events of the current week, the week which is just coming to an end, one can note that is has been marked primarily by a high level of activity in the international sphere by the socialist countries; activity directed towards realizing the propositions worked out in Prague at the conference of the Warsaw Treaty member-states' Political Consultative Committee. Along this line, the negotiations conducted in Moscow with Cheysson, French minister of external relations, merit attention first of all. Then, as you know, Comrade Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, paid a visit to Greece. The socialist countries and primarily the Soviet Union came out with very important fresh proposals at the Vienna conference on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe. Finally, on the eve of the conference of heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries to be held in Delhi at the beginning of March, a very important conference has just now been held in Laos, in Vientiane, between the leaders of three states in that region -- Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea.

If we take the chief, pivotal thing in all these actions -- of course, there are specific features in the conference held by the leaders of the three states of Indochina and in the negotiations conducted by Soviet leaders, but there is one pivotal aspect upon which the attention of the entire world public is focused at present -- is the problem of limiting nuclear weapons.

[Shishlin] It should be said in addition, Viktor Nikolayevich, that the high level of diplomatic activity has been evident not only on the part of the socialist countries and developing states; on the whole there has been quite a noticeable amount of diplomatic activity on the part of the United States, Western European countries and Japan. On the whole, activity, as such, has been evident. Everything depends, however, on the aims of such activity. And in just the past few days, United States President Reagan has more than once taken the floor and got up on the rostrum to make a series of very interesting revelations. In particular, he revealed the existence of the fourth world; he included the Soviet Union and our allies and partners in the fourth world. He did not precisely explain what he understands the first, second and third worlds to be. Well, the Third World is more or less understood. He appears to count the United States as the first world. Unfortunately, however, one can once again perceive through all Reagan's revelations the American Administration's classic position which is blocking progress on the key problems of the present day, and above all the problem of limiting nuclear weapons.

Nuclear Arms Limitation

[Levin] For this very reason Comrade Gromyko, USSR minister of foreign affairs, replied this week to questions from a PRAVDA correspondent once again expounding on the Soviet Union's position and recalling the initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union on both the problem of strategic nuclear weapons and on that of medium-range nuclear weapons. I shall remind you of our proposals, comrades; these involve a 25 percent reduction in strategic arms, which we regard as a start. With regard to medium-range nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union has put forward several proposals. Our last proposal, which was explained by Comrade Andropov on 21 December last year, is that we maintain for the Soviet Union the same number of medium-range nuclear missiles as Britain and France have while at the same time equalizing the number of medium-range nuclear weapons-carrying aircraft. And we reiterate that we are by no means removing from the agenda our basic proposal, that of ridding Europe totally of nuclear weapons, that is, an absolute zero so that there will be neither medium-range nor tactical nuclear weapons in Europe.

[Kobysh] Well now, unfortuantely, we are receiving no constructive reply whatever to these proposals. Nikolay Vladimirovich has just mentioned the latest speeches by the United States President. These are indeed interesting, now least in that he repeated his zero option in them with some sort of strange persistence. And in addition, he mentioned -- not for the first time -- the possibility of a summit meeting, making such a meeting conditional upon the Soviet Union's acceptance of the zero option. What is involved here is diktat.

In his replies to questions from the PRAVDA correspondent, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko demonstrated very convincingly what actually lies behind the United States's virtually obstructionist attitude at the Geneva negotiations and at the Vienna negotiations to which our proposals have now given fresh stimulus. The fact is that the United States is continuing to try, under the guise of conducting negotiations, to introduce, implement and perfect all its military systems. The point in all this affair is to attain military superiority and destroy the existing approximate military parity. Why is this?

A TASS statement has been made, one which is very interesting and important. The TASS statement stated that the United States of America, having declared through the person of Reagan himself a crusade against communism, in fact declared a crusade against the whole world, and even against its allies. It wants to twist everyone's arm and impose its military dictate on everyone, above all on the developing countries, where the United States wants to go on obtaining -- in some places gratis, elsewhere at minimum prices -- raw materials which the United States does not have. They want to secure this not through normal internationl relations or through the normal channels for conducting such affairs, but through force, by means of the Rapid Deployment Force, missiles, aircraft carriers and so forth. Such is the essence of this American policy.

[Shishlin] Vitaliy Ivanovich, I would like to cite for our listeners a direct quotation from Reagan which gives an idea of the Untied States President's style and of his way of thinking, of the mental orientation, so to speak, governing the actual operation and formulation of American policy. Reagan asserts no more, no less than the following: "The military power of the Russians has spread throughout the entire globe and threatens our access to vitally important resources and our sea communications." You see how often the word "our" is used. Going on, "undermining our front line of defense in Europe and Korea" the front line of defense is in Europe and Korea "and challenging us even here in our motherland, in our own hemisphere."

This is pure imperial language, that some classic conservative way of thinking preached by President Reagan who believes that this conservative way of thinking will in the final analysis turn out to be a boon for America, a boon for America's allies and a boon for the world.

[Kobysh] I have the impression that not much thought is given to the allies in Washington at the moment, since what Washington is undertaking at present is having a very strong and painful negative effect on those very allies, from its military strategy to its economic course.

[Shishlin] And the allies are of course starting to complain, they are starting to protest.

[Levin] Incidentally, we have already mentioned the new proposals by the socialist countries at the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and weapons in central Europe. We have so far received no reply. To judge from the reports coming from Vienna and from the capitals of the NATO states, our proposals are being studied. This is of course a good aspect, the proposals must undoubtedly be studied. Nevertheless, nevertheless -- I have drawn attention to the fact that the British FINANCIAL TIMES newspaper hastened to publish a statement which attempted to cast a shadow on our proposals and attempted to direct the very discussion of these proposals in such a direction as to evoke a negative response.

[Kobysh] Yes, that is without even having studied in a proper manner, without having thought over what we had so to speak proposed.

[Levin] Quite right; and in the present case, moreover, in the present case, the Western powers, it appears to me, are turning out to be in a fairly delicate situation. What have the socialist states proposed? In the first place that agreement should be reached on a reduction in the armed forces of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty in central Europe to equal collective levels of 900,000 men of each side, irrespective of differences in the figures for the troop strengths of the two sides at the present time. We say that there is, now, approximate parity; the West says no, you have superiority, by about 150,000 men -- some even say 200,000. We prove very convincingly that the juggling of figures which the Western powers are engaged in is, generally of a false character. As we have got onto this problem of the playing with figures, take this, for example: It is known that on American radar stations the basic staff are made up of people who are, as they say, civilians, people who do not wear military uniform. Only the head of the station is an officer. All the remainder wear no uniform. The West, therefore, asserts that they should not be included in the strength of the armed forces. But is this a false approach; it is, indeed, completely at variance with reality. And so we now say: Enough has been said on this subject.

[Kobysh] I, moreover -- excuse me, but since we have started to talk about the way people play with figures, I would like to mention something quite different, concerning the way in which these same figures are used again the other way round, so to speak, in quite the opposite direction. The Reagan administration recently announced with great ceremony that a considerable reduction in unemployment had taken place in January. The economists looked into it. What had they done in calculating the number of unemployed? They had included in the number of people in work 500,000 serviceman who are stationed throughout the world, including, so to speak, some number of men stationed in Western Europe. So when they want to prove that their own military forces are smaller they reduce the number and when they need to prove that unemployment is decreasing they state the number of these military men as having obtained work. Well of course, this is simply sleight-of-hand, it is quite simply juggling that is taking place.

[Levin] But the socialist countries, as I have already said, propose that agreement should be reached on reducing to a level of 900,000. What does this proposal mean? For the Western powers have made a similar proposal, have they not? And there is agreement in principle that the Soviet Union and the United States must be the first to begin, is there not?

And so we propose by way of example that the Soviet Union should, during the year, reduce its Armed Forces by a further 20,000 soldiers over and above the 20,000 serviceman and 1,000 tanks and other military equipment which have already been withdrawn unilaterally from the GDR and that the Americans should withdraw 13,000. This is to say that we are continually trying to find points where we may come into contact, because we sincerely want to achieve talks [as heard] whereas the Americans, and here they are putting pressure on their allies in this same direction, are avoiding agreement. Herein, indeed, lies the root of the problem, and under these conditions I think that the importance of all states in Europe undoubtedly grows. And in this connection I think it is worth paying attention to the visit by Comrade Tikhonov to Greece. There was discussion there of the development of bilateral relations, a 10-year agreement on the development of trade and economic relations was signed, but of course there was also talk about international policy. The aggravation of tension was cited and in particular the question of nuclear zones was touched upon. Greece is one of the initiators of the proposal for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans. We support this position. We are in favor of the creation of nuclear-free zones and it is also not out of place to recall the proposal by Sweden...

[Kobysh, interrupting] Sweden, yes, battlefield nuclear-free zone, an extremely interesting proposal, to which they have taken up a very cold attitude, to put it mildly. Generally it is a hostile one in Washington and in several NATO capitals.

[Shishlin] In Bonn, particularly.

[Levin] Yes, because the present government in West Germany says very simply that this, for it, is unacceptable. But why? Here again this is very indicative, too, for the present-day behavior of Western governments. If my memory serves me right the statement by the West German Government went something like this: That they see their main task as the strengthening of peace and ensuring greater security, but that the proposal of Sweden does not move in that direction. This is an attempt to turn facts upside down. It is a position which contradicts logic and common sense, but unfortunately it is making itself felt. And so, therefore, the activity, the foreign policy activity of the socialist states, the repetition by us of those positions which were agreed and worked out in Prague, our proposal on the conclusion of a treaty on the non-use of military force between the states of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO, for it remains on the agenda, and those extremely important proposals -- they were discussed during the talks between Comrade Tikhonov and the Greek Premier Papandreou, too. But just look: The United States of America and the closest partners of the United States are trying to keep silent about the proposals.

[Shishlin] There is, there is, I think, nevertheless one result more or less common to both January and February, and that is that there is some understanding in Europe and I think the same is true in Washington that Reagan's zero option is an option which is absolutely without any future, and that the United States, however much it may not want to, will be forced to retreat from this zero option. And I think that this is quite beyond doubt. It is another question -- and it is not clear -- as to whether they will replace this zero of their with some variant, so to speak, of the zero. They might do that, but I consider it to be quite beyond doubt that Washington is not now holding its ground on this zero.

[Kobysh] Yes, and in my opinion you are right, Nikolay Vladimirovich, there is an understanding of this already in official departments in the United States...

[Shishlin] Yes.

[Kobysh] ...That they have driven themselves into a corner, into an impasse, and that the more stubbornly they try the more difficult it will be for them to get out of the impasse and the greater their losses will be in doing so.

[Shishlin] And if they say, for example, that the Soviet Union is winning a propaganda war for the minds of Western Europe, and not just of Western Europe, well, let us reject this vocabulary, it is not our vocabulary, about these propaganda wars; in reality it is not a question of propaganda gains here it is simply that the United States is losing politically.

[Kobysh] Of course, and in this connection I should like to tell our radio-listeners about an extremely interesting piece of reasoning by Joseph Kraft, THE WASHINGTON POST observer, an observer with a great deal of experience who certainly does not take up what from our viewpoint would be progressive or even liberal positions; he supports the ruling class in his country, the setup of the capitalist West 100 percent. At one time he even belonged to the hawks -- a man of tough thinking, in general. And he, then, a few days ago, having in mind the avalanche of constructive and particularly concrete proposals which are now coming out of the Soviet Union and the other states of the socialist community, he wrote that at a time when the Russians -- he said Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov -- are playing a game of chess in a very well thought out way, America -- he said Reagan -- is just about managing to bluff its way through a game of poker.

This is what he said, THE WASHINGTON POST observer. This evidently expresses some feeling in the ruling class of America itself. They understand that it is not a matter of propaganda but of putting forward concrete ways of getting out of all those more than complicated situations in which mankind finds itself.

Japan-USSR Economic Ties

[Levin] In this connection yet another aspect of the development of modern international relations deserves attention, that is the development of economic relations. This week a visit has been paid to Moscow by the most representative delegation of Japanese business circles which has ever come out of that country in all the post war years. This delegation held very detailed talks at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and was received by Comrade Tikhonov, chairman of the Council of Ministers. However, comrade radio-listeners, I would like to focus your attention briefly on the background to this visit. For a great many years, Japan occupied one of the top positions and sometimes even the top position among capitalist countries in trade with the Soviet Union. Indeed we can provide statistics on this. After the first trade agreement between the USSR and Japan was concluded in 1957, the trade turnover between our countries increased from R34 million in 1958 to more than R3,500 million in 1982. But, from 1980 onwards, when the United States started to conduct a policy of economic discrimination towards the Soviet Union and forced its partners to follow this course, Japan, having yielded to pressure from the United States, apparently counting on receiving some sort of compensation from the United States itself for its goods, began to fall back. And now, Japan has already slipped to fifth place, making way for the Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France and Italy. When the Japanese manifest what I would call a businesslike approach they very skillfully capitalize on the mistakes and miscalculations of the Americans themselves. Last year, for example, when the Washington administration put an embargo on the sale to the Soviet Union of pipe-layers by the Caterpillar Tractor Company, the Japanese company Komatsu immediately undertook to fill this order and is filling it very successfully. On the other hand the Japanese, certain business circles, had placed very great hopes on being able to obtain the Astrakhan project as they call it -- the construction of factories to process gas in the Astrakhan region. This is a very important project. However, the Japanese Government, yet again following the course dictated from Washington, refused to subsidize the company. As a result, this project slipped out of the hands of the Japanese. And now the Japanese have come to the conclusion, or at least the business circles of Japan have -- and this is very important -- that it is necessary to develop trade with the Soviet Union.

[Kobysh] I would like to outline here a few more graphic details connected with this really extremely important visit by representatives of business circles. The preparations for it were very many, long and careful, and what is interesting is that in the United States everything possible was done to wreck the visit. On the eve of the visit, the Japanese Ministry for Foreign Affairs in its turn took steps in order to restrict the group of participants in this visit and the activity they intended to undertake during the visit to the Soviet Union. Well, what does all this mean? Behind all this are concealed very many things, contradictory things. First, Japan, like other capitalist countries, is at present experiencing a serious economic crisis and a brutal, fierce, and might we say deadly competitive struggle is going on between the United States and Japan, between the United States and Western European countries. [Levin interrupts]

[Levin] Between Japan and Western Europe.

[Kobysh] Between Japan and Western Europe. And of course they are all trying to find a market for their goods, and trade with the Soviet Union is for them an extremely important factor. Of course an absolutely clear line is being followed in Washington's artificial and conscious striving to hinder Japanese trade with the Soviet Union. The intention is clear: to deprive Japan, its most serious and dangerous economic rival, of entry to our market.

The question arises as to why the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs is playing up to the United States in this. This is a complex question, and I do not presume to answer briefly here and now. I think you are right in saying that they want to obtain some sort of compensation from the United States, perhaps less resistance to the export of Japanese goods, which as you know have flooded the United States, perhaps less pressure from the United States regarding an increase in military expenditure in Japan. Well, some sort of game is going on here. However, one way or another, the visit itself is a very important breakthrough by business circles of the blockade which Washington has been trying to establish in relation to Japan's trade with our country. The matter is import and promising and we will hope that it will bring positive results.

[Levin] Vitaliy Ivanovich, you were in Japan quite recently. What sort of an impression did you gain there?

[Kobysh] It seems to me that in Japan as such, well, we say Japan is Japan, but it is very difficult. There are three Japans. There is the Japanese people, in the context of our conversation, who want to make friends with us, and want a peace treaty to be concluded between our countries, who are extremely interested in any contacts with our country. Incidentally they foster a great love and interest towards our culture, our life, our way of life; our music is very popular there, as is our art. There are the Japanese authorities, the Japanese Government, that is something completely different. In all honesty, I never thought that there could be such a discrepancy between the real needs of the Japanese nation and the course that the Japanese Government might steer. It seems to me that what the Japanese authorities are doing now in their relations with the Soviet Union and with other socialist states is going completely against the national interests of Japan.

[Levin] Incidentally, opinion polls showing a fall in popularity for the Nakasone government confirm what you have just said.

[Kobysh] Yes, and finally, as we were saying, the third category in Japanese society is represented by the business circles. They are absolutely unanimous in their desire to have broad economic mutual relations with us and are not only showing interest in, but also acting quite energetically to overcome the resistance both by the Japanese authorities and by Washington and to embark with us on the path of economic cooperation. In other words, very contradictory and very interesting processes are at work.

[Levin] It should be said that probably nearly all -- or, no, in fact all the relations between the socialist and capitalist countries involve the most varied phenomena, both positive ones, from our point of view, and negative ones.

Cheysson Visit, French Relations

In this connection, it might be a good idea to say a few words about the recentvisit by the French foreign minister, Cheysson, to the Soviet Union. On the one hand, as you know, with regard to the development of trade and economic relations, we made a step forward, an appreciable step. We intensified the political dialogue between our two countries. That is undoubtedly a positive aspect. But at the same time, however....

[Shishlin -- interrupting] Yes, Viktor Nikolayevich, but at the same time, of course, France and the Soviet Union have different attitudes to a number of very important political problems. And it did not prove possible in Moscow to overcome those differences, although of course neither Moscow nor Paris had any special hopes of achieving this. The visit in itself, however, was quite rich in content, and after his visit our French guest told correspondents that the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee had spoken very firmly, clearly, logically, precisely and confidently, and had asked direct, well-founded questions.

Cheysson said that the Franco-Soviet meetings could be considered as frank, and that this was a guarantee that dialogue would be continued in the future. Well, that was certain achievement, although there was probably a desire to achieve more because France has played in the past, continues to play and is capable, of course, of playing a very palpable part in the fate of Europe and in international political developments as a whole. But at least when a dialogue gets off the ground, even though the sides may adhere to their own positions, it prompts a certain amount of thought, and thought, to a certain degree, is a step on the path toward searching for points of contact, then searching for certain mutual understanding, and then possibly parallel or united action. And, of course, we have every justification for expecting that the course which was outlined by the 26th party congress and the congresses of other ruling communist and workers' parties, and which was given concrete form at the Prague meeting of the Political Consultative Committee, will continue in the future to find expression in quite specific diplomatic action and specific political acts aimed at improving the international political climate. That task is task number one in international life today. And our persistence, together with the fact that our persistence is matched by the efforts of the other socialist countries and by broad action by public and political circles in various countries throughout the world, undoubtedly creates a certain hope, a hope that will perhaps acquire palpable features in the spring and summer of this year.

[Levin] Well, dear comrades, at this point we end our program. Thank you for listening, and good-bye.

MOSCOW TV'S 26 FEBRUARY 'STUDIO 9' PROGRAM

OW280041 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 0846 GMT 26 Feb 83

["Studio 9" program moderated by Professor Valentin Sergeyevich Zorin, political observer of Soviet television and radio, with Academician Yevgeniy Pavlovich Velikhov, Soviet physicist and vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh, chief of a sector of the International Information Department of the CPSU Central Committee]

[Text] [Zorin] Hello, comrades. We are again meeting with you in Studio 9 of the Ostankino Television Center. First of all, I would like to introduce the participants in today's discussion: Academician Yevgeniy Pavlovich Velikhov, well-known Soviet physicist and vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh, chief of a sector of the International Information Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

In our previous discussions in Studio 9, we analyzed and discussed at length concrete events in the international arena. A large number of your letters to Studio 9 ask us to also talk about certain general problems that underly current events without, of course, losing touch with topical international political events. The world finds itself at a unique crossroads. The destiny of mankind, of human civilization, essentially depends on the direction in which the historical process develops from this crossroads.

Mankind, of course, now possesses secrets of nature that make people very powerful and place numerous capabilities in their hands. However, this knwoledge in the hands of wrongdoers could lead to truly catastrophic events and changes. The Prague Declaration of the Warsaw Pact member-states, a most important document, states that acute global problems of a socioeconomic, demographic and ecological nature have arisen for mankind at the end of the 20th century. The present level of development of production forces and science and technology in the world provides the necessary material and intellectual resources to seek practical solutions to these tremendous problems.

Global Problems

I would like to begin our discussion today with the position of the Prague Declaration. Yevgeniy Pavlovich, in this regard I would like to ask you to comment briefly on precisely which tremendous problems mankind should and can solve and on what solutions you see for these problems.

[Velikhov] The global problems facing mankind have been discussed quite frequently in various forums and from various viewpoints. I would like to discuss -- perhaps more concretely -- a number of global problems that are not necessarily solved by national means but rather at the international level.

Smallpox, in particular, is a problem that for a long time threatened the existence of mankind; it is a terrible disease. It should be said that the 10-year program begun in 1967 by the World Health Organization with the large-scale participation of Soviet physicians and our experience in epidemiology led to the eradication of smallpox throughout the world. I think this is a wonderful example of solving a global ploblem. Moreover this program was highly efficient. It is approximately 50 times more expensive to innoculate against smallpox in one country or another than it is to simply eliminate it from the face of the earth. The overall cost of this program equals approximately 4 hours of expenditures by the world's arms industries...

[Zorin -- interrupting] Yes, an impressive figure.

[Velikhov -- continuing] ... expenditures for 4 hours' production. There are also larger-scale problems. For example, the quality of drinking water for about half the world's population is poor, which naturally leads to diseases. How much would it cost to solve this problem? Of course it would cost much more than the eradication of smallpox. A simple assessment shows that the cost of completely solving this problem would equal approximately 17 days of international arms production.

[Zorin] That is money that is spent in 17 days.

[Velikhov] In 17 days of arms production. One of the biggest problems is that of food. Approximately 1 billion people in the world have less food than is necessary to maintain health and approximately 12 million children under 5 years of age die of hunger and its consequences. So how much would a program to solve this problem cost? It would take approximately 12 percent of the annual arms expenditures to solve this problem.

[Zorin] In other words for there to be enough food for all.

[Velikhov] For food and to save children. Now let us consider the energy program. There is a whole series of technological solutions in the energy program that would allow, generally speaking, a solution to the problem today. Moreover, this is a wide-spread problem. Approximately 1 billion people today have no electric lamps. We used to call them Ilich's lamps because it was the first task solved under Soviet rule.

In order to solve this program we again would have to use a number of days of world arms expenditures. For example, one of the largest tasks that we face is to obtain a limitless source of energy. One of the proposed solutions, thermonuclear fusion, is well known. An assessment indicates that approximately 10 days of world arms expenditures would be sufficient to completely solve the task of creating thermonuclear energy.

The solution of this task, that is, demonstrating the commercial possibilities of thermonuclear fusion, transfering this process to commercial production and jointly building the first thermonuclear power station, was proposed by the Soviet Union at the UN General Assembly. A group of scientists and engineers from the International Atomic Energy Agency is working on this task. Expenditures for this program equal 1 day's expenditures on arms.

Thus, I would say that science today is able to solve a whole series of major problems on which both mankind's present and future depend. However, political will is necessary for this.

[Kobysh] I think that the questions that you touched on have vital significance both for the current generation and particularly for future generations. You know that we cannot leave an uninhabitable world for our children and grandchildren. You spoke about water. This is a very serious problem but there is a similar problem with the atmosphere. It has been calculated that the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. has increased from 10 to 12 percent since the middle of last year and that the amount of free oxygen, atmospheric reserves of which are very limited, is decreasing by 10 to 12 billion tons annually. Every year 20 billion tons of principal gases -- sulphur, nitrogen and carbon oxides -- are expelled into the atmosphere. This is a terrible thing.

Now concerning the earth that feeds us, every year 50,000-70,000 square kilometers of fertile land are lost for agriculture. In the last decade deserts have swallowed up nearly 9 million hectares. The world's forests are dissapearing at the rate of 20 hectares per minute. All this occurs simultaneously with a significant, even sharp, increase in the world's population. This is why all these problems are so prominently identified in the Prague Political Declaration.

Nuclear War Threat

I believe that all this requires awareness and a completely new approach to solutions. However, the thing that worries mankind more than anything and that is an immediate danger is, of course, the nuclear threat. This is the Damoclean sword that hangs over all people.

[Zorin] Vitality Ivanovich, you said that among all threats -- and you spoke about serious threats using very graphic figures -- the most immediate, the most imminent and probably the most terrible is the nuclear threat. The consequence of the knowledge that could have been and should be used for beneficial purposes has now led to a real threat hanging over mankind.

Yevgeniy Pavlovich, I would like to ask you this question: You are a physicist, a specialist. It stands to reason that you and your American colleagues sufficiently and clearly comprehend -- probably more clearly than all of us -- the concrete nature of this nuclear threat. From your viewpoint, do politicians in the White House and NATO headquarters, those who now manipulate with all kinds of catchwords about a limited nuclear war and so on, understand this as clearly as you do. What is this, ill will or simply incomprehension of what they are dealing with?

[Velikhov] I think that to a certain extent it is a mixture of both because on the whole, unfortunately, even physicists at times express completely unsubstantiated or poorly substantiated ideas that defend such an extreme position. Naturally, the majority of the world's physicists and natural scientists have quite clearly expressed the fact that the nuclear threat is a threat to mankind's existence.

This was done from 24 to 25 September in Rome, when representatives of 36 academies assembled, discussed this problem and unanimously admitted that nuclear war is the greatest threat to ever face mankind, that there are no practical means that present-day science can offer against a global nuclear conflict, and that no medical aid can save people from such a conflict. As physicists say, there is no degree of practical aid that would be sufficient to help the victims of a nuclear conflict.

Unfortunately, there are opposing viewpoints that claim to be scientific ones. For example, the U.S. physicist, (Taylor), writes that a simple knowledge of how to handle radioactive fallout will allow its harmful effects to be virtually eliminated, that is, after a nuclear conflict. His ideas have something in common with the opinions of a prominent U.S. Department of Defense official; namely, that the United States can restore its economic and military capabilities within 2 to 3 years of a global nuclear war.

[Zorin] Is this substantiated from the scientific viewpoint?

[Velikhov] It is completely unsubstantiated because it is clear that the direct physical after effects of a nuclear explosion, radioactive fallout and its genetic consequences, have been carefully studied in many reports. I repeat that on the basis of these reports and calculations 36 representatives from 36 academies discussed this problem at an historic meeting and expressed themselves quite clearly.

[Zorin] I do not think that we would be wrong in saying that practically every war mankind has endured was essentially the result of a miscalculation, the result of an error, in any case, by one of the combatants. Let us say that if Hitler could have looked into the future when he began the war and could have imagined how it would end for him -- by rat poison in a shelter in Berlin and on the gallows in Nuremburg from his associates -- it is unlikely that the fascists would have unleashed their aggression. It was a miscalculation.

Vietnam -- if those in the White House had known with what disgrace the aggression in Vietnam would end, it is unlikely that Washington would have adopted the Tonkin Resolution and started that war. In this connection, I think a quite valid question arises: If Washington's leaders and their NATO colleagues do have an idea -- let us proceed from the fact that perhaps it is not the same as that of your physicist colleagues, but some sort of idea -- of what nuclear war threatens and how it may end for mankind, then how can one explain their current, truly suicidal course?

[Kobysh] I think that this is primarily a big political, military and strategic bluff. This course of confrontation, force and dictate is, of course, untenable from any viewpoint. Serious people in Washington, of which there are generally a sufficient number, of course understand that gambling on gaining military superiority and upsetting military parity is not practicable and that nothing will come of this. Nevertheless, they make noises, threaten and declare crusades. Indeed why?

There are at once a number of reasons for this: First, there is the attempt to frighten the developing countries of the so-called Third World to ensure that the United States regularly receives the minerals that it does not have and that they regard as strategic. I will cite three or four figures: The United States imports 98 percent of the tantalum it uses, 97 percent of its manganese ore, 95 percent of its cobalt, 93 percent of its bauxite and 96 percent of its chromium.

This explains quite a lot. It explains why they so irresponsibly wave around all kinds of weapons, including nuclear weapons, and why methods of force are set in motion. This also explains why whole regions of the world -- subcontinents and even whole continents -- are declared U.S. zones of vital interest.

[Velikhov] Yes, I must say that here there is the purely economic aspect that you mentioned; and of course there is also the imperialist aspect, simply the material interests of monopolies. For instance, take the energy problem. In principle, with appropriate decisions the United States could be completely independent of energy imports. Such an energy independence program was formulated in the United States.

[Zorin] Was this a scientific program?

[Velikhov] Yes, yes. It was a scientific program in which nuclear energy was given a significant role. New methods for obtaining energy were supposed to be developed. Of course, it cost a large amount of money, but it was a sensible program, a program that would have made the United States independent and at the same time would have made it less aggressive in this connection. However, this program generally did not endure. I must say that even the organizations that were created were later abolished and instead we have a program of rapid deployment forces in the Persian Gulf. Therefore, I believe that these complex imperialist interests fuel this entire machine working to create tension in the world.

[Zorin] Yevgeniy Pavlovich, if I understand you correctly, what is declared as a sphere of vital interests is an artificial invention.

[Velikhov] Well, yes and no, of course.

[Zorin] But practically. You are familiar with energy problems. Can America, the United States, practically manage without Middle East oil or is it a vital necessity for them? I do not mean the immediate problem...

[Velikhov -- interrupting] Unquestionably, scientific and technological solutions exist that would allow the United States to manage without imported oil, but today it is simply unprofitable for certain monopolies, unprofitable for banking capital. This is the aspect that is influential [words indistinct].

[Kobysh] In other words someone in Washington considers that it is cheaper to maintain naval squadrons, torpedo boats and aircraft carriers than to develop this program of independence. It seems that is the way it is.

[Velikhov] Of course.

[Zorin] Continuing our discussion I would like to go on with the point in the Prague Declaration that I cited earlier. As you remember, the part cited talked about the tremendous problems facing mankind and that mankind now has both material and intellectual resources available to solve these problems. The Prague Declaration further emphasized that the development of international cooperation and the solution of the tremendous problems facing mankind are hindered by reactionary forces pursuing a course that preserves the backwardness of whole continents and alienates and sets some states against others. I think that the collective thinking of the communist parties discovered here the very essence of the policy of contemporary imperialism.

U.S. Anti-Communist 'Crusade'

[Kobysh] Yes. Generally when the crusade that we spoke about was declared, it was essentially not intended as a crusade against communism or -- let me way -- not only against communism. Of course those who are in power in Washington today consider the Soviet Union and the socialist community countries as the main potential enemy because we constrain them. We do not give them the opportunity to be masters of the world as they would like to be. However, the crusade itself is a crusade against everyone, against the whole of mankind, insofar as the present course of Washington and the White House is directed at world hegemony, diktat and at giving orders on all continents and in the whole world.

This is a crusade against everyone including its allies. Let us bear in mind that America is waging all kinds of economic wars against its allies, moreover ruthless and cruel wars, especially if we recall the case of Japan. Let us bear in mind how U.S. strategists are now planning to use West European territory as a springboard for waging nuclear war. In this connection various theories of limited nuclear war are being proposed, and Reagan recently publicly and openly said that a tactical nuclear was is possible in Western Europe. Of course, this is a war against everyone, it is a war against the whole of mankind; it is a challenge to the whole of mankind; it is a universal threat.

[Zorin] Yevgeniy Pavlovich, in this regard I would like to ask you as a scientist, how do you conceive the consequences of Washington's crusade against everyone?

[Velikhov] First of all, this crusade is based on the false premise that military advantage can be attained today and that certain military and political tasks can be solved with the help of a military advantage. Nuclear weapons are weapons of a completely different kind. They are weapons that -- however paradoxical it may be -- cannot solve real political questions. They only lead to global confrontation and conflict and complete mutual destruction.

Therefore generally, from a scientific viewpoint, the first main premise of the Reagan administration is built on a completely incorrect foundation. Not only is it an incorrect foundation but it is also terribly dangerous.

Understandably at one time the United States and its allies had a similar aggressive plan when they counted on their nuclear monopoly. This plan existed at the end of the 40's and at the beginning of the 50's. The details of this plan of nuclear war against the socialist countries and the Soviet Union are now sufficiently well-known. At the time it was based on an illusion that the Soviet Union would not be able to develop a nuclear shield in time. However, this shield was developed and their plan turned out to be unrealistic.

Today the plan is based on even more unrealistic positions. Today we are in an age in which we have equality of nuclear arms, an age in which nuclear arms have generally exceeded any actually conceivable level and an age in which local nuclear wars are completely senseless insofar as they could lead to a very dangerous global situation. It is an age in which every attempt by the United States to create a first-strike capability backfires on the United States itself. In this age any attempt to obtain nuclear superiority -- however paradoxical it may seem -- actually reduces security and also threatens the very planners of this attempt, the United States itself.

Let us take a look at history. When the United States exploded the atomic bomb, the continental United States became insecure -- so to speak -- for the first time because previously, of course, the oceans protected the United States. The ballistic missile was then invented, and Americans spoke about a missile gap with the Soviet Union -- which the administration knew perfectly well did not exist -- with the aim of strengthening the military-industrial complex under pressure from the military-industrial complex. What did the United States get as a result? The Soviet Union, responding to these developments, created corresponding missile forces, and the security of the United States decreased further.

The creation of multiple warheads was then proposed and the United States decided that with this new technology it could strengthen its potential, a first strike potential. This technology became universal; there are no big secrets any more in this area because the technological levels of the opponents are very close. What happened as a result? After the development of this technology, the danger for the United States itself increased. They recognize this now and because of this they are searching for a way out with more aggressive technology.

Unfortunately, industry supports this aggressive trend of the administration. It supports it because this is profitable and therefore it suggests all kinds of new technical solutions such as the MX missiles. However, the decision on the MX missile is one that is primarily harmful and dangerous for the United States itself. This is recognized today by technical experts and even by the general population. Even people who know very little about technology understand this.

[Zorin] This is a very interesting thought. It is quite obvious that in the past decade the United States instigated every round in the arms race. We did not set the objective of superiority nor did we take the initiative. Every new step in the arms race was undertaken by the United States. Now it follows from what you said that each of these steps eventually backfired against the United States.

[Velikhov] Yes, it is interesting. I can say that this is understood even by U.S. religious leaders, who it would seem are far removed from all these problems. In their message they say that they oppose the appearance of missiles that would increase the probability of attack, the possibility of a first strike and the possibility of a strike at defended targets such as the MX missiles, and other weapons in this category.

[Zorin] This is significant. Yevgeniy Pavlovich, I would like to continue our discussion of this. Of course, the situation is complex and mankind is faced with extremely serious tasks, but mankind is not living in some kind of untouched world, that is, a world in which everything remains as it was in the last century or the beginning of this century. Everything changes, including the environment and the level of information exchange. Generally, those who face these tremendous problems about which we are speaking live in a world that is different than the one in which previous generations lived. In your opinion, what influence is this having on the possibility of mankind solving the problems it faces? I mean these changes in the environment in general. Is this a negative factor or a factor that will help mankind solve these problems?

[Velikhov] First, I think that the major factor today is that of correct information from leaders. But our basic belief is in correct mass information. Naturally, both television and that invention of physicists, the transistor radio, and other mass information means are in principle operating for the progress of mankind and toward an understanding of the problems that we are discussing and of their realities.

On the other hand, as we see particularly today in the United States, these means quite often are controlled by those who attempt to direct them in a different way and to create a screen against this real information. But I would say that the situation is generally improving because mass movements and major breakthroughs in the most unexpected places of this front of silence and misinformation are extremely promising.

U.S. Peace Movement

[Zorin] I would just like to continue our conversation about this idea. Vitaliy Ivanovich, and you, Yevgeniy Pavlovich, spoke at the beginning about difficult problems that face mankind. The problems are truly difficult but apparently we have the courage to speak about the difficulty of these problems openly because generally we proceed from the fact that we are solving these problems, don't you think?

[Kobysh] Of course we are solving the problems, although I would not like to be overly optimistic here. Generally, we live at a very complicated and alarming time when there are more than sufficient problems. All factors that now determine the situation in the world need to be taken into consideration very accurately and precisely.

If we talk about the present day, about the most important things, it seems to me that the following points, among others, are of decisive significance. The first thing is the fact that people, representatives of the ruling class in the United States, who are pursuing a course objectively fraught with the possibility of initiating a nuclear war are presently in power in the United States. This is a serious threat that hangs over mankind. The second objective fact, a very important and possibly decisive one, is the existence of a mighty potential in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and their allies who oppose this. In particular, this is a defense potential. I would particularly stress what Yevgeniy Pavlovich has just spoken about, that is, the unprecedentedly extensive and influential antiwar and antinuclear movement that has developed in the world.

This is a new phenomenon that we have not yet completely understood and that will manifest itself in the future. It is having an enormous influence on world affairs and particularly on the policies of Washington, the NATO countries and generally all aggressive and reactionary circles. If we were to sum things up and make some kind of average calculation -- although of course, no computer can make an accurate average calculation here -- nonetheless we have gounds to be optimistic. These forces that oppose the threat from irresponsible people who choose to play with these dangerous toys are superior and more powerful. In the long run, of course, they will have the last word.

[Zorin] We often talk about the peace movement. I think that at present it has reached a completely new stage throughout the world, particularly in the United States, don't you think Yevgeniy Pavlovich?

[Velikhov] Yes, of course. This stage is apparently a complete surprise to the United States because forces that normally have been polarized have now united. They have felt this threat that we are discussing today and I would say they have also felt to some extent the irresponsibility of the new administration. In a way the militant statements of the new administration and the realization that this could lead to a catastrophe for the United States has given rise to these forces.

For example, I spoke to religious figures in the United States. American Catholics have always represented ultrapatriotic and ultrarightist forces. Today they assert that their patriotism does not lie in agitating for more U.S. arms because more arms no longer means greater security. On the contrary, their patritism lies in agitating against the immorality of this nuclear arms race and the immorality of the Pentagon's nuclear program and in agitating for the necessity of treaties and the need for nuclear disarmament. I must say that most characteristic in this connection are the physicians. The American physicians' movement has played a very great role in educating the American people because the physicians, as well as the clergy, are people who generally have close ties with Americans. Whether or not Americans are believers, as I see it, a considerable number of them nevertheless go to church every Sunday where they hear sermons and sometimes possibly learn more in church than from the newspapers. Therefore, it appears to me that the current position of both U.S. physicans and religious leaders, which has come into serious conflict with the administration's position, is a major breakthrough.

The scientists, who understand the whole situation and actively agitate for a nuclear weapons freeze, the students' movement and all these completely different forces that are far from always being progressive and that hold different ideological positions are naturally merging into a single, powerful antinuclear movement.

[Kobysh] I would like to confirm what Yevgeniy Pavlovich has said by noting a curious pattern. Generally, four figures have a decisive impact on U.S. public opinion and on the daily life of the population. They are physicians, teachers, the clergy and lawyers. Of these four figures three are already actively taking part in the antiwar movement. Of course, this is not only important, it is of decisive significance.

In general, the times in which people remained silent, as was described in Pushkin's Boris Godunov, have passed. A program of public diplomacy was recently announced with great fanfare in Washington for a very specific purpose. This program pursued purely demogogic, even fraudulent and diversionary, aims. At the same time it was extremely curious from the standpoint that current U.S. leaders were forced to speak about public diplomacy. This is a completely new situation and the U.S. ruling class and its representatives in the White House feel extremely uncomfortable, although that is not to say that they have been forced into a corner.

[Velikhov] I would also like to say something about the position of scientists in this regard. I am returning to a position that is fairly official because the academies of sciences are fairly official organizations since they are quite closely linked with the governments of countries. The opinions of these scientists are not purely personal but represent the opinions of a large group of scientists.

They came out with a whole series of proposals to governments on the basis of their analyses of nuclear war. One of them was the assertion that any use of nuclear weapons is a crime against humanity. I think this is a very strong assertion. Everybody understands the threat of nuclear war. Nevertheless, there are political and military leaders who assert that the use of nuclear weapons in a future war is justified.

They assert that the use of nuclear weapons is justified in the European theater, that it can be a flexible response, that it can be controlled and that it is justified in principle from certain viewpoints. Unfortunately, these statements are still being made by political and military leaders and occasionally even by scientists.

Scientists have put it clearly: The use of nuclear weapons, limited or otherwise, is a crime against humanity. It is frightening to think what will happen to those on whom this bomb will be dropped because in fact (?you understand) we will have to drop one warhead on three or four enemy tanks in order to achieve something in the military sense in view of the distances at which they operate. [sentence as heard] Imagine, thousands of warheads will detonate in the most populated part of Europe, which harbors all those cultural traditions and enormous scientific potential and so forth.

What will happen to the people there? What will happen to the culture? What will happen to Europe? In this sense it is really the profoundest crime against humanity. The scientists have spoken. The Soviet parliamentarians have spoken. The USSR Supreme Soviet and the RSFSR Supreme Soviet appealed to the parliamentarians of the world from the rostrum of the jubilee session. However, we have yet to hear the voice of the fourth figures-- the lawyers and legislators of the United States. I think these figures will also have to speak.

[Zorin] Yes, I think that a feature of the moment is this movement -- including figures such as church leaders and so forth which at first would seem unusual to us -- that no longer parallels the political activities of the government. Previously, the movement was one thing while Washington's political line was another. Now Washington is being forced to react. Vitaliy Ivanovich, what you said about the program of public diplomacy does not mean that U.S. leaders have been imbued with some sensible ideas. It means that they must pay heed to the times because they have no political alternatives in the current situation.

Generally, this is a more optimistic factor. Until now, Yevgeniy Pavlovich, world history has managed to solve the tasks that were posed by life. Now what about the future? This is directly related to the field in which you are working.

[Velikhov] I would say that nuclear disarmament and the rejection of nuclear weapons is generally a very serious and difficult task. In what way is it serious and difficult? Today it is necessary for mankind to be united in its desire to completely reject nuclear weapons. What does completely reject mean? Even if we destroy the last warhead we will still be left with the knowledge with which we could again make nuclear weapons in a couple of months. Thus, not only is the reduction and gradual elimination of nuclear weapons necessary, but there must be a process that will result in complete nuclear disarmament. This is precisely the aim set by the Soviet Union and this was a major point in its declaration to the United Nations.

I think that this process is now being accepted as absolutely necessary because nuclear weapons are indeed man's first actual confrontation with a threat that he himself created and that can destroy the world. I do not think that this will be the last confrontation because one can conceive that biology and genetic engineering could someday give us the ability to destroy ourselves. Perhaps this is not comparable for a number of reasons but it is similar in scale. Many global problems will also be on a similar scale but we have solved major problems before. Fascism was a big problem that threatened all of civilization. Nevertheless, the whole world united and destroyed this danger -- I must say it was a terrible danger, a lethal danger that hung over mankind -- at great cost. At that time we were able to solve these ideological problems that separated us from our Western allies.

[Kobysh] Yes, because the threat was...

[Velikhov -- interrupting] Obvious.

[Kobysh -- continuing] ... equally dangerous for all, although socialism, that is, the Soviet Union, was the main power that bore the brunt of the struggle against fascism. However, in any event we had allies in this struggle because, regardless of ideological differences, they understood that the choice was either fight fascism together or face the reality that fascism would seize half the world or perhaps more.

[Velikhov] The current situation is that nuclear weapons are to a certain extent not an external and understandable enemy. Some still think that these weapons can be used to solve certain problems and that something positive can be gained from them. The fact is that they are an enemy, an enemy facing mankind that we ourselves invented and that we now must jointly eliminate.

[Zorin] It is said that economics is the underlying reason for wars. Many economic problems, for example, the desire of one country or another to profit at the expense of another, have created conflicts. Yevgeniy Pavlovich, it is well known that you work on controlled thermonuclear processes and from your and your colleagues' statements we know that when mankind masters this thermonuclear process it will have at its disposal sources of energy -- and this will have effects on various economic spheres -- that will solve the energy problem. Can we say that this will eliminate the threat of wars?

[Velikhov] I would say that every step -- man creating the capability for nuclear energy and safely operating atomic power stations under appropriate conditions that are now familiar to everyone -- contributes significantly to the possibilities of reducing clashes and conflicts. This is because we have a significantly more uniform distribution of nuclear fuel than organic fuel and because we can produce sufficient energy. Energy makes up for the depletion of materials about which we spoke. In this way we are repaying the debt we incur with future generations when we extract exhaustible resources. We pay for the necessary measures to eliminate pollution and so on. We must repay all this with energy.

Today we have a number of energy sources. Nuclear energy has completely proved itself technologically and justified itself economically. Further progress without its continued development is now inconceivable. The next step is thermonuclear energy. Theremonuclear energy indeed depends on fuel that is absolutely uniformly distributed around the world and of which there is an absolute surplus, that is, there will be absolutely no problems with fuel.

Problems will basically concern modern refined technology and knowledge. We want this knowledge to be universal, for it to originate on an international level with no commercial secrecy imposed on it. This is one of the reasons why the Soviet Union proposed joint work on thermonuclear energy problems. Of course, the solution of these energy problems will be a large step on the path of reducing conflicts. However, the energy problem is naturally not the only one, but it can solve a lot.

[Zorin] It really may solve many problems but apparently it will be necessary to solve some more acute problems before this. I would like to share a story with our television viewers. In a recent television program we saw an interview with a small boy, I think he was 8 or 9 years old, who played a role in some film. The interviewer asked him if he would like to become a movie actor when he grows up. The boy responded with what at first appeared to be a humorous phrase but upon reflection was a frightening one. He said: Well, if I live that long.

A common question for the older generation when they were children was: What will you be when you grow up? We used to say a pilot or a cosmonaut, I don't know, there were various ideas. But a child who is asked today whether he would like to engage in something he enjoys suddenly says that he must survive until then. The awareness of the extremely acute problems that face mankind today has even spread to children.

There is no doubt that the successes of science will solve many acute problems such as the energy and ecological problems. All of this can be solved, but only with the collective efforts of mankind. We must ensure that mankind survives to do this.

[Kobysh] That is true. It is also interesting that an avalanche of letters is arriving from the United States addressed to Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. PRAVDA recently published a review of only some of these letters, although, as I said, there has been an avalanche of them. They are quite a variety of letters. The different people who are writing are neither sympathetic to us nor are they supporters of communism and socialism. Furthermore, they are not what we would call progressive people. People who are terrified that nuclear war can occur are writing.

A single idea in the letters unites these people. Everything possible must be done immediately to prevent nuclear war. They express a great belief that it is primarily the Soviet Union that will make a decisive contribution to this cause. They highly praise our initiative in which we unilaterally declared that we would never under any circumstances be the first to use nuclear weapons. This greatly impressed Americans and many other people throughout the world.

[Zorin] In connection with what we are discussion I would like to take advantage of the fact that we have an eminent physicist here who understands the problems of his specialty very well. These are the problems that have the most direct bearing on the future of manking. I would like to take advantage of this and ask you, Yevgeniy Pavlovich, a personal question. In view of your familiarity through your work with the processes whose development affects much in the contemporary world, are you an optimist or a pessimist?

[Velihkov] I am an optimist at present. This is truly the golden age of science and generally mankind is learning so much and so rapidly that it is absolutely inconceivable that this golden age will later turn into some kind of catastrophe for us. On the other hand, I understand perfectly well that this future does not depend on science today. To a great extend it depends on political will and the political will of the masses, because only on the basis of the will of every person, which of course is formed in political movements that we have discussed and so forth, nonetheless today every person must think about the fate of mankind. [sentence as heard]. This is a critical point in history...

[Zorin -- interrupting] I really liked a poster I saw in the United States that was published by American peace champions. It was a drawing of a person with the following message: The fate of the world today depends on one person... this person is you!

[Kobysh] That is how it is.

Soviet Nuclear Pledge

[Zorin] At the conclusion of our discussion I would like to touch on the following question: The Soviet Union indeed advocates peaceful proposals, which are generally known. Nevertheless, our critics talk about the Soviet Union claiming a monopoly on virtue and leaving the role of political villains to its opponents who, contrary to objective realities, are pushing the world toward disaster. A lot is said about this.

[Kobysh] That is how it is. In general, the actions of the current Washington administration do not reduce the possibilities of a war, particularly a nuclear war, but bring it closer. In contrast to this, all of our actions are directed at making such a war impossible, at removing the very threat of nuclear war and reaching agreement generally on all problems that threaten the future of mankind.

Following our unilateral pledge not to use nuclear weapons first, we made another proposal that is outlined in the Prague Political Declaration. We proposed to NATO, on behalf of the Warsaw Pact to begin negotiations and to sign an agreement on rejecting the use of force altogether. They say that this is propaganda. Why don't they engage in this kind of propaganda? The world would then be different and people would look to the future much more confidently. What is the basis of our purposeful and very courageous policies aimed at stopping the nuclear threat? You understand that it is a courageous step when one side -- the USSR in this case -- unilaterally rejects the first use of nuclear weapons. We are taking a definite risk here, but we have calculated everything. Our calculations were not made with some kind of computer, but on the basis of our scientific Marxist world outlook. We know that mankind will sooner or later reject nuclear war as such, and some day it will reject all wars. As far back as 1914, again in 1918 and 1919, Lenin said that the time would come when technological progress would lead to the creation that would make war impossible.

Therefore, our actions are not merely voluntary. They are absolutely precise actions, founded on scientific premises, and they are the actions of a side that seeks to save the world from the threat of nuclear destruction. In other words, socialism is once again playing the part of savior of mankind. This is its great historic function.

[Zorin] Thank you. Our time on the air has elapsed. It remains for me to thank you for participating in our program and to thank you, comrade television viewers. Thank you and all the best.

SHITIKOV PARTICIPATES IN GENEVA IPU MEETING

PM251545 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Switzerland: In the Interests of Peace"]

[Text] Sessions of the IPU working group were held in Geneva 14-17 February. The most important task of the IPU, founded in 1889, is to ensure and support extensive participation by states in the consolidation of peace and cooperation.

Those taking part in the sessions examined proposals for amending the charter and rules governing IPU procedure with a view to further improving the activity of that international organization, in which 98 countries are now represented. The working group discussed the results of the fulfillment of the IPU's first long-term work plan (1972-1982) and the preliminary draft of the new plan for the next few years. There was also an examination of several current questions of the IPU's activity.

The working group's conclusions were submitted to IPU leading organs for relevant decisions to be taken on them.

Taking part in the sessions of the working group was A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group.

REAGAN REITERATES ZERO OPTION 'SYMPATHY'

LD251442 Moscow TASS in English 1423 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 25 TASS -- President Ronald Reagan has demonstrated anew that Washington does not want to approach in a constructive manner the crucial problem of our time, namely, the curbing of the nuclear arms race threatening the whole of mankind. Delivering a TV address on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of NEWSWEEK, which was broadcast to several countries, Reagan rejected the realistic Soviet proposals aimed at cutting medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

The President spoke against taking account of British and French nuclear missiles in calculating the overall balance of forces between the NATO members and the Warsaw Treaty countries, as if the weapons of those two states were not targeted at the USSR and its allies. The President again touted his "zero option" which demands that the USSR scrap all its medium-range missiles but leaves intact the nuclear missiles of Washington's allies and the forward-based systems of the United States itself. This option is actually tantamount to an attempt to tip the rough parity of forces in Europe and to achieve the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union.

The President cynically voiced "sympathy" with those Americans and Europeans who wanted a freeze on nuclear arsenals. Claiming that he "wanted" such a freeze too, Reagan nevertheless strongly rejected the very idea of a freeze under the far-fetched pretext that it would presumably leave the USSR with no motivation to conduct arms limitation talks. The best Reagan could do was advise the present and succeeding generations to pin their hopes on -- God's help in ensuring life, peace and freedom.

The "peace programme" of the United States to which the President was paying lip service actually boils down to Washington's unwillingness to work out mutually acceptable agreements with the USSR while whipping up the arms race as strenuously as possible. Reagan boasted that his administration had begun to restructure and modernize the Armed Forces. This programme will cost the Americans 1,600 billion dollars within the next five years.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA ON REAGAN'S ARMS CURB STANCE

PM251253 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 25 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[Article by S. Bulantsev: "What Is the Obstacle?"]

[Text] In recent days two statesmen -- a Soviet and an American -- have spoken on questions of war and peace: U.S. President R. Reagan addressed the annual conference of the American Legion and A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, answered a PRAVDA correspondent's questions. These utterances revealed the two countries' different approaches to the very important problem of limiting and reducing nuclear armaments. It is a hard task, but practice shows that its solution is perfectly possible given good will and a sincere desire to achieve a solution.

This is Soviet foreign policy's goal at the arms control talks with the United States. The USSR believes that any agreement should accord with the principle of equality and identical security and it is submitting concrete, far-reaching proposals. Our approach to disarmament questions is consistent and is not subject to short-term fluctuations.

As for the essence of the USSR's position at the Soviet-U.S. talks, it is, as A.A. Gromyko said, as follows:

It is necessary to reduce both sides' strategic armaments by approximately 25 percent to equal levels. The number of nuclear warheads on these armaments would also be substantially reduced to identical agreed limits. All channels for the continuation of the stretegic arms race would be blocked. The Soviet Union is prepared for further, more drastic reductions.

What is the obstacle to the success of the Soviet-U.S. dialogue in Geneva? The chief obstacle is Washington's desire to secure unilateral Soviet disarmament while retaining its own programs for creating brand-new nuclear weapons. The United States is still trying to impose the notorious "zero option" on us.

Unfortunately, the U.S. position is showing no move toward realism, as clearly demonstrated by U.S. President R. Reagan's address. It is clear from his speech that Washington intends to pursue a policy which increases the danger of war breaking out. The United States retains its global imperialist ambitions and intends to use brute force to realize them. Again R. Reagan went so far as to demand "concessions" from the USSR. In fact this means changing Soviet foreign policy to suit Washington. The President's grossly anti-Soviet speech also confirms the fact that the United States has no intention of adopting a constructive stance at the Geneva talks.

It's a pity. A mutually acceptable accord is a possibility. To achieve it, we repeat, good will is needed. And that is what the present U.S. Administration lacks.

GEORGE SHULTZ' SPEECH IN ATLANTA CITED

LD251646 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Washington February 25 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports:

Military, economic and political force is one of the basic principles of the U.S. foreign policy, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said addressing a meeting of the southern centre of international studies in the city of Atlanta.

This is also fully applicable to the U.S. policy vis-a-vis the developing nations which, as it follows from the speech of the secretary of state, are still regarded by the United States as primarily a major market for its products and as a source of cheap -- above all strategic -- raw materials.

According to data cited by Shultz, the developing countries meet over half U.S. needs for bauxites, tin and cobalt. Supplies from the developing countries of eleven other strategic metals and minerals account for half of the U.S. imports of such raw materials.

As transpires from Shultz's statements, the United States intends to continue to regard the developing countries as the West's military and political backyard where the U.S. military diktat must be the law.

The secretary of state referred to data by the Brookings Institute, indicating that since the end of World War II the United States sent its troops to the developing countries at least 185 times. The line of global instability passes through the Third World continents, Shultz alleged, stressing that some of the countries beset by instability are the sources of critical commodities for the USA or are situated along the sea lanes used by U.S. troops and by the world trade.

And this, according to the colonialist logic of the state secretary, calls for the expansion of the web of U.S. military bases in the developing countries which are to serve as military staging areas for the United States.

This network includes U.S. bases in the Philippines, Turkey, the Azores islands, Morocco and other countries in strategically important areas, and above all in the oil-rich Middle East. The United States, Shultz said, cannot protect its interests by operating only from the U.S. or West European territory.

Shultz made it clear that in providing military and economic aid to the developing countries, the United States will proceed only from its self-interest and give the aid in the first place to U.S. "friends" in the Middle East, the Caribbean and other regions of strategic importance.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON WEINBERGER'S 'FABRICATIONS'

LD271422 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1024 GMT 27 Feb 83

["KRASNAYA ZVEZDA: Troubadour of the Policy of Force" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 27 Feb (TASS) -- "In order to attain its hegemonistic aims, the United States is ready to plunge the world into a nuclear catastrophe. One of the first among those who favor this is Caspar Weinberger, the troubadour of the cold war, ready to unleash a hot war to please the mercenary interests of imperialist circles. This is how the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA evaluates the speech by U.S. Defence Secretary Weinberger at a recent conference of the conservative wing of the Republican Party.

The newspaper disclosed in well-argued fashion and on authentic facts, Weinberger's fabrications about the state and correlation of armed forces and weapons of the USSR and the United States, about the alleged 'supremacy' of the USSR.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes: Weinberger reaches the heights of hypocrisy in expounding the strategic doctrine of the United States, characterizing it as 'defensive.'

So why, the newspaper asks in this connection, does the United States refuse to follow the example of the Soviet Union and take upon itself the pledge of not being the first to use nuclear weapons? Or is the first nuclear strike, the unleashing of a nuclear catastrophe which will place the very existence of mankind under threat, going to 'hold war in check'?

Or perhaps the United States is now agreeable to the proposal of the Warsaw Pact states to conclude between them and NATO countries a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintaining of peaceful relations? By no means!

And this initiative, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA asserts, was rejected, as were many others. Let us recall that Washington refused to ratify the SALT-2 Treaty, placing a limit on the quantitative build-up of and qualitative development of nuclear arsenals. It is openly prolonging the drafting of agreement on the full and universal curbing of nuclear weapon tests, which means an end to its qualitative improvement; it does not want to come to an agreement on banning the creation of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction. But these and other measures being put forward by the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community, could considerably lower the danger of war, strengthen trust between states, improve the state of the international situation.

No, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes in conclusion, it is not about this that they are thinking across the ocean. For all the defensive appearance of the package in which Weinberger has wrapped his strategy, it remains a strategy of confrontation and preparation for war. But its creators will not succeed in concealing the evidence.

FESUNENKO VIEWS 1984 PRESIDENTIAL RACE, CANDIDATES

LD230300 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 2010 GMT 22 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] In the first review we have already reported to you that former U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale yesterday announced his intention to run in the 1984 presidential elections.

The path to these elections is not yet close but in accordance with the traditions of the U.S. attempts to play at democracy, the preelection struggle in the United States has already started.

So far the Republican Party is awaiting Reagan's decision. Will he or will he not put himself forward as a candidate for a second term? No one is taking it upon himself to forecast this.

Generally the master of the White House, in the overwhelming majority of cases, usually does not voluntarily relinquish the opportunity to stay another 4 years in power. But the United States has not forgotten Lyndon Johnson who was forced to leave the White House voluntarily -- I am using this word in inverted commas -- having relinquished reelection to a second term. He did this because he realized that the criminal Vietnamese war had dealt his presidential prestige an irreparable blow.

Now, when the chances of possible candidates and aspirants are being discussed, this incident with Lyndon Johnson is being recalled increasingly frequently in the United States. The ill-omened shadow of the unlucky Lyndon is falling on the present master of the White House. The weight of his mistakes, flops and failures is indeed too great. His authority and prestige is falling too swiftly indeed in the eyes of those who only 2 years ago brought him to power by their votes.

As public opinion polls show, Reagan's popularity is dropping markedly and very rapidly. Now, according to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the opinion of Americans on his activities as president is considerably less flattering than the opinion which was voiced about his four predecessors including, note, Johnson during the same period, during the first 2 years.

That is why many political observers are perceiving a certain resemblance in the situations between Johnson's dramatic fiasco which forced him to relinquish his candidacy for a second term and Reagan's present difficulties.

I understand, of course, that the historical parallels are always risky and I would not wish to foist this analogy between Johnson and Reagan on you. But, as the saying goes, you cannot get away from facts, you cannot brush them aside, you cannot turn away from them. I do not know whether Reagan himself or his advisers notice this similarity. Perhaps they do notice and perhaps that is precisely why they continue to maintain silence on the theme of the 1984 elections, to the dissatisfaction of those prominent figures in the Repbulican Party who, in the case of his relinquishing his candidacy, would wish to start the struggle for the White House.

In the Democratic Party, the picture is perhaps clearer. After Edward Kennedy's voluntarily gave up the struggle for the presidency in 1984, passions there in the Democrats' camps flared up with renewed force. This was revealed at the congress of the party organization of California State which took place recently in Sacramento. Well, as always at first there were very many who wished to try their luck.

But among the serious candidates the press primarily mentions such a well-known political figure as the former vice president in the Carter administration, Walter Mondale who, as has already been said, yesterday officially announced his wish to fight for the White House. I recall that in his speech in the town of St. Paul he stated that he is entering the struggle for the White House in order to achieve an end to the arms race. Mondale subjected Reagan's economic policy to sharp criticism and called on Congress to cut military expenditures to sensible levels. Mondale is considered a very serious aspirant to the post of president.

The press regards the former astronaut John Glenn as one of his strongest rivals. Last week Senator Gary Hart announced his wish to joint the preelection struggle. The very first to join, to enter -- to use the expression in the U.S. papers -- this race, this preelection race, was Senator Alan Cranston.

It is interesting ot note that the majority of Reagan's rivals or of his Republican successors in the case of the present president relinquishing his candidacy, are coming out in favor of an end to the present hysteria, muddle and instability in international relations in general and in relations with the Soviet Union in particular.

For instance, Mondale, speaking in Sacramento, stated plainly and without reservations that if her were president he would sit down without delay at the negotiations table with Soviet leader Andropov inasmuch as, he said, the USSR and the United States must do everything possible to achieve an agreement on freezing nuclear armaments.

Cranston also speaks out in favor of a change in Washington's present foreign policy course, in favor of a dialogue, in favor of solving international problems by means of talks and not by methods of mindless force. Well, also at the same congress in Sacramento he formulated his foreign policy platform in such words and (?such form). I differ primarily from other candidates who intend to run for the post of president in that I have devoted myself entirely and utterly to efforts aimed at achieving peace, reduction in armaments, and fianlly at liquidating nuclear weapons. The problems of nuclear disarmament, according to this aspirant, is the immediate task of our time.

It is, of course, difficult to forecast the further development of events and even more so to forecast the outcome of future elections. But undoubtedly one thing is clear: The United States is getting more and more tired of the blunders and failures of the present administration and voices in favor of changes are resounding more and more loudly.

U.S. REPORTEDLY INCREASING TROOPS IN W. EUROPE

LD250324 Moscow TASS in English 1912 GMT 24 Feb 83

["USA Threatens Peace" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 24 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Robert Serebrennikov:

The Reagan administration plans to increase further, as of October 1 this year, the numerical strength of the American troops stationed in Western Europe. This has been announced by U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger during hearings at the Senate budgetary committee. The head of the miltiary department motivated the planned airlift of additional contingents of Ameircan servicemen to the European Continent by the forthcoming deployment of new Ameircan cruise and Pershing-2 missiles and increase in general combat readiness.

Weinberger's statement exposes the hypocrisy of the Washington administration which constantly blackmails Western European countries by the "threat" of the withdrawal of part of American servicemen from Western Europe. This bluff is designed to "appease" the NATO allies who more and more often express their unwillingness to follow in the wake of Washington's adventurous course. More and more Europeans realise that the American troops in Western Europe are intended not for their "defence", but for expansion of the American military presence in the old continent.

The sharp increase of American military presence abroad carried out by the Reagan administration is an integral part of the U.S. overall strategy connected with the great-power aims towards world hegemony.

According to American press reports, the United States has now 543,400 officers and men abroad, that is, 28,800 more than late in 1981.

The Pentagon has concentrated its largest strike units in Western Europe and the Far East. 355,600 American servicemen are now stationed in the European Continent, first of all in the Federal Republic of Germany. The total strength of the U.S. expedition corps in Western Europe grew up by 60,000 men in recent years.

The Pentagon rapidly reinforces its troops in the Middle East region, proclaimed a sphere of U.S. vital interests. The nuclear base on Diego Garcia Island in the Indian Ocean has become a jumping-off ground of Rapid Deployment Forces.

Washington increases its formidable Army outside U.S.A. year after year on the pretext of the mythical "Soviet threat". None of the states in the world possesses such an "overseas" expedition corps. It may engage in military adventures at any time on Washington's order and carry out open interference in the affairs of other countries which follow an independent policy against the U.S. liking.

The Reagan administrations course towards enhancing its military potential abroad sparks off legitimate indignation and wide-spread public protests in many countries. Mass demonstrations and collection of signatures under petitions demanding the removal of American military bases are held in Greece and Spain. "Americans out of Greece", "Remove Death Base" -- such slogans keynoted an anti-war demonstration recently held in Athens. More and more Britons press for the removal of American military bases, against the siting of new American missiles on British soil.

PRAVDA ON U.S.-CANADA MILITARY COOPERATION

PM181557 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[Nikolay Bragin "Commentator's Column": "In a Dangerous Harness"]

[Text] Ottawa -- The signing of a new 5-year agreement on military cooperation between the United States and Canada has taken place in Washington behind closed doors -- the agreement provides for the possibility of the use of Canadian territory and airspace by the American military command for testing various types of armaments, including American cruise missiles.

The report of this deal has caused indignation among many Canadians. As a recent public opinion poll showed, most of the country's citizens are resolutely opposed to such tests. Even in the ruling Liberal Party, according to Liberal member of Parliament McRae, at least some 25 deputies regard the involvement of Canada in the nuclear missile arms race, which is dangerous for the destiny of the world, as impermissible.

Washington and official Ottawa did not wish to reckon with these sentiments. The White House resorted to the tactics of blackmail and unconcealed pressure on Ottawa and demanded that it unconditionally fulfill its "allied commitments in NATO and NORAD." The Canadian Federal Government unfortunately ignored the will of the opponents of the nuclear arms race -- and they make up the majority of the population here today -- and capitulated to American diktat. Canada's consent to the testing of American cruise missiles on its territory, P. (Dzhyuit), parliamentary deputy for the New Democratic Party, stated, is contrary to the country's national interests; this step can only be regarded as support for the most aggressive plans of the U.S. military-industrial complex.

In view of the powerful resistance to the country's involvement in U.S. nuclear missile preparations, the Canadian Foreign Ministry issued the explanation that American cruise missiles will only be tested unarmed in Canada. It was also stressed that Canada does not intend to permit the testing on its territory of American "nuclear, biological and chemical materials of a military nature." But this explanation, as THE TORONTO STAR newspaper notes, does not do much to change the essence of the agreement on the question of cruise missiles.

The Canadian people do not want to be in the same harness as the Washington "hawks." In Ottawa, Toronto and other cities mass demonstrations are to be held in the next few days to protest against the agreement signed in Washington on military cooperation with United States and against the coming tests of American missiles.

The land of the maple leaf must not become a testing ground for U.S. nuclear missile preparations which jeopardize not only the cause of preserving peace throughout the world, but also Canada's own national security.

PRC'S QIAN QICHEN ARRIVES FOR TALKS 27 FEB

Greeted by Ilichev

PM271819 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Soviet-Chinese Consultations"]

[Text] The special representative of the PRC Government, PRC Vice Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, arrived in Moscow 27 February with a group of advisers and experts for Soviet-Chinese political consultations. The Chinese representatives were met at the airport by the USSR Government's special representative, Deputy Foreign Minister L.F. Ilichev, and other officials. The welcoming party included PRC Ambassador to the USSR Yang Shouzheng.

The next [ocherednoy] round of Soviet-Chinese political consultations will begin 1 March.

PRC Reportage

For PRC media reports on the visit to Moscow by the PRC delegation led by Vice Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, see the Soviet Union section of the 28 February China DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

NOVOYE VREMYA NOTES PRC MOVE ON U.S. LOAN CASE

PM252159 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 18, 18 Feb 83 p 23

[Unattributed report: "China's Move"]

[Text] XINHUA has distributed the text of a PRC Foreign Ministry memorandum given to U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz during his visit to Beijing.

As the memorandum points out, in September 1982 the U.S. District Court in Alabama passed "judgement in absentia" in the case of the holders of loan bonds issued by the government of the Qing Imperial Dynasty in 1911 for the building of the Guangdong-Hankou railroad linking southern China with the central regions. In November 1979, nine U.S. bond-holders demanded the repayment of their loans and interest totaling $41.3 million.

The U.S. court, the memorandum notes, even declared that should the PRC Government ignore this ruling, the plaintiffs would request the confiscation of Chinese property in the United States. Thus, the document stresses, "this issue has become very grave."

The issuing of the loan bonds for the construction of the Guangdong-Hankou railroad, the memorandum continues, was one of the methods whereby the treacherous Qing government, in collusion with the imperialist powers, which had divided China into spheres of influence, fiercely oppressed and plundered the Chinese people. It is quite natural that the PRC Government should refuse to recognize such old foreign debts.

If the U.S. side puts the above-mentioned ruling into effect and confiscates PRC property in the United States, the PRC Foreign Ministry stressed, the Chinese Government will reserve the right to take appropriate measures.

SOVIET DIPLOMATS LAY WREATHS IN PRC CITIES

LD251241 Moscow TASS in English 1114 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Beijing February 25 TASS -- Representatives of the Embassy of the USSR in the Peoples Republic of China laid wreaths in the cities of Harbin, Changchun, Shenyang, Dalyan, and Uhan at the monuments to Soviet armymen killed in battles against Japanese militarists for the liberation of China on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. Wreaths were also laid by representatives of the local authorities and chapters of the Chinese-Soviet Friendship Society.

ROME PAPER CITES CPCZ, MSZMP AIDES ON ANDROPOV

PM250843 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 22 Feb 83 p 9

[Sandro Viola dispatch: "Andropov: The Second Thaw"]

[Excerpts] Prague, February -- "Sobriety of style, great realism and specificity: This is the message that has come from Moscow during the past 3 months, since Comrade Andropov became CPSU General Secretary...." Pavel Auersperg, Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] Central Committee member and head of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee, declared himself enthusiastic about the Kremlin succession. He spoke very enthusiastically about the new atmosphere in Moscow and, as a waiter served us with a bottle of white Moravian wine in the room in the parliament building where we were chatting, Auersperg's tone became almost lyrical. "I'll tell you what's happening," he declared, with glass raised: "Socialism is getting moving again, we are witnessing an outright socialist renaissance...."

For over a week I have been asking questions about Yuriy Andropov in Prague and Budapest (both magnificent under their blankets of snow). From a central committee headquarters to a parliament building, from one ministry to another and from a trade union meeting to a newspaper office, every time I asked the same questions. What do the "fraternal parties" think of the era that has begun with Brezhnev's death? What do the leaders of communist Europe (high-level "apparatchiks" but also economists and diplomats) expect from the new CPSU general secretary?

Matyas Szuros, head of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] International Relations Department and for years -- until a few months ago -- ambassador in Moscow, is convinced that many things are about to start moving throughout Eastern Europe. "Andropov's accession constitutes a thrust, a support for the various reformist demands manifesting themselves in the socialist countries. Now you ask me whether anything will change in the Soviet economy too. I will answer you thus: I know Comrade Andropov and am well aware what a positive assessment he has always given of the Hungarian party's policy lines and the interests with which he has followed our endeavors. Therefore, I am led to deduce that he will try to transfer to the USSR some of the experiments that we Hungarians have made, with some success, in recent years. Of course objective conditions (the vast size of the country and its international role) are very different from the conditions under which we have worked. But, I repeat, we are all convinced that with Andropov the management of the Soviet economy will be inspired by the Hungarian reforms. Of course, nobody can expect things to happen in a few weeks..."

Does Ambassador Szuros mean that Andropov and his men will encounter major obstacles? "Well, we all know that here and there, there are groups of conservatives, barriers of inertia, and these forms of resistance cause time to be wasted. But in the USSR the process will go ahead, the economic mechanism will be modified, improved. For the time being an attempt will be made to improve discipline in work places and management efficiency. Then sights will increasingly be set on the capable and dynamic elements. Last, there will be modifications and improvements of the management structures."

How important is it for Hungary and the other socialist countries that the Soviets themselves initiate some reforms in their ravaged economy? "Enormously. The more the USSR moves at home, the more the socialist countries can modernize and become competitive in international trade. But permit me to say that it is not only Hungary and the other Eastern countries that want some evolution of the Soviet economy: The West too can gain substantial benefits -- commercial and political -- from it. And this is the importance of East-West negotiations at this stage, starting with the Euromissiles negotiations."

"It is obvious," Szuros continued, "That a failure of the negotiations would lead to a very onerous situation: The USSR would have to adopt a more rigid stance on the international plane and would become immobile at home. However, the conditions for completing the Geneva negotiations are now very favorable. Indeed, in Moscow there is a profound desire to reach an understanding -- both because an agreement would enable it to devote more energies to domestic problems and because, like all new leaderships, the Soviet Union wants to consolidate itself by showing that it has achieved an important result. In short, if we Hungarians could give the West a word of advice, we would say: be careful, do not miss the opportunity of an understanding, which is now much more possible than is believed...."

At CPCZ Central Committee headquarters I spoke with Radoslav Klein, deputy director of the party's International Affairs Department. Klein is an expert in international affairs and, among other things, headed the committee that drafted the Prague Declaration in December -- the document that marked the conclusion of the communist alliance summit. When I asked him whether he saw any change or innovation in Andropov's first 100 days, he replied: "Change? I would not say so, and in fact the new leadership has greatly stressed its intentions of continuity with the past. Perhaps there is a little more dynamism on the international plane. But that is because of objective reasons: East-West tension has further exacerbated, and 1983 is the decisive year for the question of the missiles in Europe. No wonder that there is more movement in Moscow, then...." Frankly, I did not perceive much enthusiasm.

So to see who the "Andropovians" are in Prague, it is enough to compare the language of Klein with that of Auersperg. "As a Czechoslovak Communist," Auersperg said, "I believe it is our duty to send from Prague a response convergent with the signs of extraordinary innovation that are coming from Moscow...." But this cannot be Gustav Husak's opinion. In Prague too, as elsewhere in the communist world, for that matter, the Politburo's unity can be maintained only at the cost of immobilism.

MOSCOW MEETING MARKS HUNGARY TREATY JUBILEE

PM231005 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Feb 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "On the Anniversary"]

[Text] A cermonial meeting of representatives of the capital's working people devoted to the 35th anniversary of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Hungary was held in Moscow 17 February.

In the Presidium were M.S. Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; I.V. Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; leaders of a number of ministries and departments and representatives of party, Soviet and public organizations. A delegation of the Hungarian-Soviet Friendship Society headed by L. Duschekne [name as published], deputy chairman of the society, was present.

The keynote speaker -- F.T. Yermash, chairman of the Central Board of the Soviet-Hungarian Friendship Society and chairman of the USSR State Cinematography Committee -- pointed out that the 1948 treaty dealt a crushing blow to the calculations of internal reaction in Hungary and ensured the country's defense against interference by imperialist states. The principles enshrined in it were further developed in the treaty signed in 1967, which raised relations between the two countries to a new level.

S. Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR, spoke about the successes achieved by Hungarian working people in past years.

1982 POLISH ECONOMY FIGURES REPORTED

LD250016 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Central papers in the Polish People's Republic have published a report by the chief statistical directorate on the results of the country's economic development during 1982.

[Begin Ulyanov recording] Last year was a special year in the history of people's Poland. It was a year of martial law in the country. It was a year during which the party, government and the men of the Polish Army made vigorous efforts to prevent the final collapse of the economy, to restore cooperative links between enterprises, which were destroyed by strikes, in order to satisfy the most important needs of the population.

What do the figures of the statistical directorate reveal? The volume of industrial production in the country during 1982 was two percent lower than in 1981. However, the results of the year are, on the whole, interpreted in an optimistic light, since the statistical data show that last year for Poland was, on the whole, a successful one. Comparisons tell the whole story. Take a look at this diagram. [Ulyanov holds up diagram] On this line we have time, the months of 1982. Here we have the level of production. This line shows the level of production month by month. The level of production in the country was swiftly falling right up to the declaration of martial law. The fall continued through December 1981, January, February, March, April, May right up to August 1982. Throughout 1982 new mines were opened. New capacities were commissioned at power stations and chemical enterprises. New hospitals and other amenities were built.

Here they rightly consider that the modest -- so far -- successes of 1982 have been achieved thanks, to a great extent, to the assistance of the countries of the socialist community, and, especially, the Soviet Union. [end recording]

PRAVDA NOTES TRIAL OF SOLIDARITY RADIO FIGURES

PM242123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Criminals Punished"]

[Text] Warsaw, 18 Feb -- As PAP reports, the court of the Warsaw Military District has examined the case of a group of organizers of an underground Solidarity radio station headed by Z. Romaszewski, an active figure in the counterrevolutionary grouping KSS-KOR.

After the introduction of martial law in Poland the group set up an illegal radio station, spread false reports about the situation in the country and provoked anti-state actions and disorders.

The court sentenced the culprits to various terms of imprisonment.

POLISH-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY'S ANNIVERSARY

Zimyanin Receives Wronski

LD251441 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Comrade Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today met with Wronski, chairman of the main board of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society and member of Poland's State Council. He has been taking part in events in the USSR celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society.

Groups Sign Protocol

LD262056 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A protocol of cooperation between the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies, the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society and the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society has been signed for 1983 in Moscow.

It was signed by Comrade Beregovoy, chairman of the Central Board of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society and Stanislaw Wronski, chairman of the main board of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society.

Answering a correspondent's question on friendly ties between our countries, Stanislaw Wronski said:

[Begin recording] You have touched upon a question which I find difficult to answer immediately because it is the most stirring question which we as a people have felt deeply in our history. In (?this) friendship we have found everything that we require in life as a people, independence, salvation during World War II and development, which we know have in evidence, but in all phases of our economic, cultural development, we have experienced what friendship with the Soviet Union, with the Soviet People, means, with the fraternal, close assistance. We felt it in full during the war, we felt it after the war, and now when there is talk about the security, the independence of the country, in order to surmount all difficulties, and now, in the most difficult time, we have again felt where we should look for our friends and what friends are -- the Soviet Union and the Soviet people. [end recording]

TIKHONOV CABLES ZHIVKOV, CEAUSESCU DURING TRIP

LD221754 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 21 Feb 83

[Text] Comrade Tikhonov, while en route by air to Greece, sent a telegram to Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee, chairman of the State Council of Bulgaria, and to Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria. It reads: While flying over the territory of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, I take this opportunity of conveying to you personally and to the fraternal Bulgarian people, cordial greetings and wishes for new successes in the construction of developed socialist society.

Comrade Tikhonov also sent a telegram to Ceaucescu, RCP general secretary president of Romania, and to Dascalescu, premier of the Romanian Government. It reads: While flying over the territory of the Socialist Republic of Romania, I convey to you and to the whole Romanian people, cordial greetings and wishes for further success in the construction of a developed socialist society, and in the struggle for peace and international security.

ZAMYATIN RECEIVED BY SED'S AXEN IN BERLIN

PM252145 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk in Berlin"]

[Text] Berlin, 24 Feb -- H. Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, today received L.M. Zamyatin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Section, who is here at the invitation of the SED Central Committee.

In the course of the friendly talk, an exchange of opinions took place on the question of further strengthening cooperation in the work of the mass media. P.A. Abrasimov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR ambassador to the GDR, took part in the talk.

FURTHER REPORTS, COMMENTS ON TIKHONOV'S GREECE VISIT

PRAVDA on Results

LD271138 Moscow TASS in English 0723 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 27 TASS -- "The results of the visit and the signing of an important document -- a long-term programme for the development of economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Greece", PRAVDA's special correspondents in Athens write in the newspaper today, "are viewed by the country's public as an important step forward in the development of friendly good-neighbourly relations between our states."

As Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou of Greece told the PRAVDA correspondents, "prospects for further deepening friendly cooperation between the Soviet Union and Greece have always been wide. They became still wider in connection with Mr Tikhonov's visit to our country. This cooperation is based on long-standing traditions but has not so far reached the scope which it could reach and which could serve the common interests of the two peoples".

"Of special importance is the fact", Andreas Papandreou said, "that close economic cooperation which is based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit is also a firm foundation for the development of friendly political cooperation between our two countries."

Summing up the results of the visit by the head of the Soviet Government, the Greek prime minister pointed out that it is a big step in the development of friendly cooperation between our two states in all fields, the PRAVDA correspondents go on. This is why the visit became a valuable contribution to the cause of peace.

Touching upon the problems of strengthening international security and peace throughout the world, particularly in such a unquiet area as the eastern Mediterranean, Andreas Papandreou expressed confidence, in particular, that the development of friendly contacts between the Soviet Union and Greece will strengthen peaceful coexistence and will decisively contribute to making the Balkans an example of peaceful joint life of peoples with different social and political systems, the correspondents write.

"The principal goal of the policy of Greece", the prime minister pointed out, "is to preserve and strengthen peace. Therefore, we support the ideas of limitation of armaments, non-use of force as a means to resolve differences in international affairs, respect for the territorial integrity of all states and the status quo, for the principles of the UN and the provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki conference."

"The visit by the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR to our country is of great importance," Harilaos Florakis, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece, said in an interview with the PRAVDA correspondents "the proposals which were put forward during the talks by the Soviet side, and which found reflection in the long-term programme signed in Athens open up great prospects. The Greek side welcome the proposals. Much will now depend on their implementation.

[Word indistinct] practice. But already now one can state that Nikolay Tikhonov's visit will undoubtedly have a beneficial effect on the further development of Soviet-Greek relations. It will be no exaggeration to say that in our country the visit is regarded as the principal event of the year."

"The four days of Soviet-Greek meetings at the level of heads of government, full of a large amount of constructive work", the PRAVDA correspondents emphasize, "gave a new impulse to the entire complex of versatile, mutually beneficial and equal relations between our countries."

IZVESTIYA Assesses Results

LD261824 Moscow TASS in English 1708 GMT 26 Feb 83

["USSR and Greece: An Important Step" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- The talks that were held in Athens have opened up a new page in the history of relations between Greece and the Soviet Union and have given a new impulse to the development of mutually beneficial contacts not only in the sphere of politics but also in trade-and-economic cooperation, writes todays IZVESTIYA, appraising the results of the visit to Greece by Nikolay Tikhonov, the head of the Soviet Government. Touching upon the long-term programme for the development of economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the Hellenic republic, the newspaper emphasizes that it is aimed at looking for ways for effective utilisation of natural and raw materials resources, newest technology and achievements of industry and agriculture in the interests of the two countries. The implementation of the programme will make it possible almost to double the volume of bilateral trade which will amount to 1,000 million roubles.

The fruitful Soviet-Greek dialogue acquires special importance now that one observes the growth of international tension which as never before affects the interests of all countries and peoples. The positive results of the visit go far beyond the framework of further development and deepening of bilateral relations, IZVESTIYA points out. It is essential to note the joint contribution which the Soviet Union and Greece make to strengthening security in Europe and to the cause of consolidating everything positive that has been achieved during the years of detente.

The revealed similarity of our countries' positions on a number of topical international problems is of great importance.

The sides expressed deep conviction that a major task of today is to remove the threat of a nuclear war, to bring about an end to the arms race, to achieve disarmament, to preserve the policy of detente and to strengthen universal peace. They stated the need for the vigorous efforts of all countries, big and small, in this direction.

IZVESTIYA on Greek Reaction

PM281005 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by IZVESTIYA Athens correspondent B. Lipovoy: "USSR-Greece: Strengthening Friendship"]

[Text] At the moment Greece, the Athens press writes, is occupied with an event of truly historic significance. The visit by N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and his talks with Greek Prime Minister A. Papandreou are the main topic in the press, radio and television here. The Athens press gives a high assessment of the results of the talks.

The newspaper ETHNOS, which is close to government circles, emphasizes the atmosphere of good will and good-neighborliness in which the Soviet-Greek summit talks took place.

The progressive Greek newspaper RIZOSPASTIS draws attention to the readiness of the USSR and Greece to develop cooperation in the interests of ensuring lasting peace in Europe and the Mediterranean, to reduce nuclear confrontation between the two military-political groupings and to establish the principles of peaceful coexistence and mutual trust as the dominant factors in international affairs.

The signing of the long-term program for the development of economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Greece met with a wide response among public, political and business circles in Greece. This program, drawn up on the basis of the fruitful experience accumulated in cooperation between our two countries, opens up, as I. Pottakis, alternate minister of the national economy, stated, "positive new prospects for extending economic and industrial cooperation and ties in the scientific and technical sphere on a mutually acceptable basis, and will certainly help to extend Soviet-Greek interestate ties."

As Yeoryios Spiliotis, general director of the firm Tipoimportex, stated in a talk with me, this document is an important new step in the development of commercial relations between our countries. He also said, in particular: "The firm I lead has been cooperating with your country for 14 years now. Thanks to deliveries of printing equipment from the USSR it has been possible to create a complete production line in Greece for carrying out all the operations involved in publishing books and pamphlets."

V. Ilantsis, general director of the firm (Speka), which specializes in importing Soviet tractors and other agricultural machinery from the USSR, also comes out resolutely in favor of expanding trade with the Soviet Union. "Soviet machines," he says, "have won the widest popularity in Greece. We are pleased with our cooperation with your country, because it gives the Greeks access to leading technology."

Comrade N.A. Tikhonov was accorded a warm, moving reception in the Greek-Soviet society. After the meeting, the well-known Greek poet Ioannis Ritsos, honorary president of the Greek-Soviet Society and holder of the international Lenin prize "for strengthening peace between peoples," said in a talk with IZVESTIYA's correspondent:

"I regard the visit by N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, as a lofty, noble gesture of friendship by the Soviet Union and your country's people toward the Greek people and Greece.

"The Soviet Union's friends -- and there are more of them every day in Greece -- sincerely wish your country prosperity and peace, as well as successes in the noble mission which it is fulfilling by showing mankind the way to democracy, humanism and social progress.

"Indeed, interest in the Soviet land and its culture, scientific and technical achievements, traditions and language has taken on broad scope in Greece in recent years. At present dozens of Greek public organizations, prominent politicians and statesmen, members of the Greek Parliament and representatives of broad circles of the scientific and creative intelligentsia belong to the Greek-Soviet Society. It now has sections in practically all Greece's major cities.

"I am confident," Ioannis Ritsos stated in conclusion, "that the visit to Greece by N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, will go down in history not only as the first visit by a head of the friendly country's government in the entire period of Russian-Greek and Soviet-Greek relations, but also as an important new stage in the cause of extending the traditional bounds of friendship which link our countries' peoples and in the cause of strengthening peace and stability in Europe and the Mediterranean. This will be promoted by the results of the Greek-Soviet talks held in Athens."

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON RESULT OF CHEYSSON'S VISIT

LD271002 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 27 Feb 83

["PRAVDA: A Useful Dialogue" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 27 TASS -- "The ideas of a constructive dialogue and of mutually beneficial cooperation between states with different socio-political systems are winning their way through all the obstructions being set up by the advocates of revival of cold war," PRAVDA writes.

Commenting on the results of the official visit to the USSR by Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations, the newspaper points out that the exchange of views in Moscow covered a wide range of subjects. It included matters of bilateral Soviet-French relations and topical international problems. Conviction was expressed on both sides that good opportunities exist for further development of fruitful mutually beneficial cooperation between the USSR and France in various fields. The importance of further development of political contacts and dialogue between the USSR and France in the spirit of traditionally good relations between the peoples of the two countries was emphasised.

PRAVDA draws attention to the desire of the two sides to make headway along the lines of improving bilateral relations. The talks that have been held, the newspaper writes, will give an additional impulse to ramified and fruitful contacts between the USSR and France in the field of economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation. A programme for deepening Soviet-French cooperation in the field of science and technology for 1983-1993 was signed during the visit.

The two sides declared for a continuation of the all-European process started in Helsinki and for the consolidation of detente and cooperation in Europe, PRAVDA pointed out.

"Both in the USSR and in France," the newspaper writes, "much importance is being attached to the two countries political dialogue which may play an increasing role in the cause of preventing war, improving the international situation and strengthening the atmosphere of trust and security in the European Continent. This is the main result of the Soviet-French talks."

ANTI-SOVIET TRENDS IN FRG CAMPAIGN CRITICIZED

DW251303 Moscow in German to Germany 1700 GMT 23 Feb 83

[Anatoliy Pavlov commentary entitled "Anti-Sovietism in the CDU/CSU Election Campaign"]

[Text] In the FRG the election campaign is in full swing. The ruling parties and the SPD [Social Democratic Party] opposition are making many election promises and are vying with each other in praising their policy. In this the CDU/CSU [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union] leadership is particularly active. Their election programs do not economize on words such as "peace, detente, disarmament, freedom, justice" and so forth. When looking at it more closely, however, it turns out that this is nothing but beautiful phrases which are disguising the unattractive content.

The CDU/CSU leadership wishes peace, the program says. World peace, however, was threatened by the Soviet Union and this is why the FRG was compelled to rearm. The CDU/CSU was striving for detente but the Soviet Union, being the sole source of tension in the world, was obstructing this way. The CDU/CSU was advocating disarmament and NATO's counterarmament decision was paving the way toward this end. An obstacle, however, was the stubbornness of the Soviet Union which does not want to disarm unilaterally, and so forth, along the well-known pattern that the Soviet Union is the Big Bad Wolf and the FRG Little Red Riding Hood.

In this one cannot help thinking of the CDU/CSU's ideological inspirators, meaning high-ranking members of the incumbent U.S. Administration. Thus the old fairy tale of a Soviet threat is being eagerly circulated. This is serving the purpose of intimidating the voters and making them believe that only a CDU/CSU election victory would guarantee peace and freedom to the country. It does not sound less false and hypocritical if the program states as the declared intention of the CDU/CSU leadership that it wants to maintain correct relations with the socialist countries that are aimed at peaceful cooperation.

How these relations should look in the view of the leading CDU/CSU politicians is indicated, for instance, by their aims set with regard to the GDR. According to them, the German issue remained open, the FRG was responsible for all of Germany, the state border between the FRG and the GDR was no border but only an intra-German dividing line. In the view of the CDU/CSU leadership the FRG's treaties and agreements with the GDR and the other socialist countries constituted no final settlement but only an interim solution. What then, one may ask under these circumstances, are the correct relations aimed at peaceful cooperation of which one is talking?

Doubts about the CDU/CSU's sincere intentions, that may have been harbored by anybody, were finally dispelled by FRG Interior Minister Zimmermann. He recently stated in everybody's hearing that for the current Federal Government the German issue was not confined to the territories of the FRG and the GDR but also included the former German territories beyond the Oder and Neisse Rivers. Small wonder that Zimmermann's frank assertion has triggered strong reaction in Poland and in the GDR. They rightly were evaluated there as a provocation aimed at undermining the FRG's so-called treaties with the East.

Interior Minister Zimmermann also met with strong criticism at home. Karsten Voight, the SPD faction's foreign policy spokesman, said that Zimmermann's utterances testified to a policy which endangers the bases of reconciliation with the Polish people. He demanded the minister's removal from the government. In the view of Uwe Ronneburger, member of the FDP [Free Democratic Party] Executive Committee, Zimmermann had done an ill service to the FRG's foreign policy. The Federal Government promises to preserve continuity in the FRG's relations with Eastern Europe appears as FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE stresses, as an attempt at misleading the voters. It is well known that irrespective of this the CDU/CSU leadership did not relieve Zimmermann at all but declared itself in full solidarity with him. This need not be commented on.

The election program of the FDP, the CDU/CSU's partner in the government coalition, is hardly more inferior in its self-praise to the Christian Democrats. The Free Democrats assure the voters, by striking various notes, that they are in favor of peace, detente, disarmament, the strengthening of East-West confidence and so forth. One will not be mistaken by voting for the FDP, they say. And what can be observed in reality? Along with the CDU/CSU the FDP in fact supports NATO's plans for the stationing of new American nuclear missiles in the FRG, although most voters are against them. Thus the FDP politicians' beautiful words about peace and detente prove to be a smoke screen aimed at disguising the militarist plans.

It seems as if the election programs of the Bonn government coalition parties are destined for very naive and inexperienced people. The authors of such programs seem to have forgotten that we are living in the eighties and no longer in the fifties when there still existed chances for success for such short-sighted plans. One must not overlook, however, that ever more people in West Europe, including also the FRG, now are in a position to distinguish between truth and lies, between a genuine peace-promoting policy and hypocrisy.

UNITED STATES TO INCREASE LEBANON CONTINGENT

LD251343 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 25 Feb 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Valentin Gubernatorov and Dmitriy Morozov]

[Text] Here is a report which concerns events in Lebnon. U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger, it says, has stated that the United States will most probably increase its contingent in Lebanon. He explained this as resulting from the threat to Israeli troops from Palestinian units. The ridiculousness of such assertions is obvious. Arab circles have long been suspicious of the increased number of U.S. troops in Lebanon. Is this not striving by Washington to consolidate itself as strongly as possible in this strategically important region of the globe? And history has shown that those who lightly let the Americans in, later have great difficulty in turning them out of their country.

TASS Commentary

LD260200 Moscow TASS in English 2302 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 25 TASS -- TASS commentator Grigory Vasilyev writes:

Of late Washington has exerted energetic efforts to extract maximum benefits from the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and to expand its military presence there. Ever newer areas of the Lebanese territory are getting under the control of U.S. Marines. American television reported about the Pentagon's intention to bring the numberical strength of the U.S. military personnel in Lebanon up to 10 thousand people. This indicates how in practice the aims of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon, prepared and launched with U.S. participation, are assuming increasingly clear-cut contours. This means above all assuring conditions for a further Israeli expansion and establishment on Lebanese soil of a powerful base for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force -- which is the Pentagon's police force intended for use in the Middle East.

In a clear bid to mislead international public U.S. mass media wrote a lot about the alleged "frictions" in areas of contact between the U.S. Marines and the Israeli occupation troops. In actual fact, however, as it is borne out by developments, the American personnel and the Israeli invaders are acting in a concerted manner. Suffice it to say that the Israelis are unhampered in the pursuit of their punitive operations in areas formerly under the control of the Americans, and they continuous exchange intelligence information.

It appears that what is at issue at the present stage is the intention to complement and probably to replace the Israeli occupation of Lebanon by American. It is also evident that all the activity pursued for the attainment of these unseemly aims proceeds within the framework of the aggressive U.S.-Israeli "strategic alliance" spearheaded primarily against the security and independence of the Arab peoples and states.

IZVESTIYA ON U.S. 'PROVOCATION' AGAINST LIBYA

LD261912 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- On February 13 a task force of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean, led by the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier "Nimitz", received an instruction from the Pentagon to move away from Lebanese shores to the Gulf of Sidra whose waters wash the coast of Libya. Four U.S. AWACS reconnaissance planes, fitted out with espionage electronics, left for Egypt.

Presently, IZVESTIYA writes, commenting the Pentagon's another provocation [as received] against Libya, there followed Washington's official statement on the holding of joint U.S.-Egyptian exercises near Libyan shores. It was not denied that U.S. military aviation intrudes into Libya's territorial space. On February 17 a U.S. Government spokesman stated that it is a question of a show of U.S. force and determination to act in certain circumstances.

The provocative lie which was put into circulation, the article stresses, resulted in a dangerous straining of the situation in that part of North Africa and in the Middle East. The assertions by U.S. official circles that Libya allegedly "threatens" the Sudan, that Libyan troops allegedly concentrate on the border with the Sudan, and that Libyan aviation is preparing to deliver a strike at Khartoum were a lie.

IZVESTIYA draws attention to the fact that it is not for the first time that Libya is the target of rudely blackmailing tactics of the U.S. military that act in keeping with what was conceived across the ocean in the political field. In August 1981 F-14 aircraft shot down two Libyan planes in Libya's air space. Presently, through the efforts of U.S. special services a hullabaloo was raised about "Libyan terrorism" appearing almost near the lawn of the White House.

By fabricating military crises in various regions and trumpeting about a non-existent "threat" the same figures encouragingly regard their placemen who do not stop short of shedding blood on a large scale for the sake of expansionist designs, the article says. This is how Washington acts also with regard to Israeli annexionism. The matters have gone to such lengths that the White House now intends to grant Israel "guarantees of security" for its northern borders as if it were neighbouring countries that broke through those borders, and not the Israeli military who snapped off from those countries pieces of territory which have exceeded the area of Israel itself and who are busy implementing through blood and iron the motto of creating a "great Israel".

SECURITY COUNCIL U.S.-LIBYA DEBATE NOTED

LD251836 Moscow TASS in English 0934 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] New York February 25 TASS -- TASS correspondent Valentin Vasilets reports:

The results of the Security Council's discussions, which ended here on Wednesday, concerning U.S. military provocations against Libya are regarded by many political observers as a sharp rebuff to the attempts of the American Administration to intensify its "big stick" policy toward developing countries.

In the ominous movements of the American military fleet the young states unmistakingly recognized the well-familiar features of the colonialist, imperialist policy from positions of strength and diktat. As was said by Victor Hugo Tinoco, the delegate of Nicaragua, there is nothing new in "gunboat diplomacy" with the exception of the fact that the role of gunboats is now being played by aircraft carriers with nuclear weapons on board, which makes this diplomacy still more dangerous.

It was noted in the first place that positions from strength policy was denounced at the Security Council meeting by delegates representing nonaligned and socialist states of all regions. No one, except the delegates of the USA and Sudan, supported Washington's actions.

Even the Western allies of the United States, Security Council members, preferred to keep silent, realizing that protection of undisguised arbitrariness may damage their image in the eyes of nonaligned states.

That this was sheer arbitrariness was convincingly shown by the Security Council discussion. As it turned out, no one had asked the United States for "help" and "protection". The Sudanese representative was rather vague on this score while Egypt tried to dissociate itself from the clumsy "concerns" of its senior partner.

The United States simply arrogates the "right" to give, at its own discretion, unasked-for "protection", or, in other words "the right" to interfere unceremoniously in the affairs of any state, in any region of the world.

As was shown by the Security Council discussion, the nonaligned countries received the U.S. provocation against Libya as an encroachment on their own security and their own sovereignty. That is the way things really are.

The actions of the Reagan administration were meant as a "lesson" to all nonaligned states, especially those of them which challenge Washington's hegemonistic policy. They were given to understand that if warnings fail there are other, more effective, means -- aircraft carriers and combat planes.

The impression is that the United States found it necessary to stage this show of force and of imperial arbitrariness in time for the nonaligned summit meeting which is to open in New Delhi on March 7.

But as often happens, they in Washington overestimated again their positions from strength policy. May this challenge to the developing states, Clovis Maqsud, permanent observer of the League of Arab States, said at the Security Council meeting, show them the need for unity and make them realise the fact that their common interests are far more important than their disagreements and that they are all interested in preserving peace.

KUWAIT NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION HELD IN MOSCOW

LD252007 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] A celebration was held at the House of Friendship with the peoples of foreign countries last night on the occasion of Kuwait's national day. The celebration was attended by Kuwaiti Ambassador to the USSR 'Adil Najm ad-Din al-Jarrah, the Kuwaiti Embassy staff and Kuwaiti students in higher education institutions in Moscow.

Konstantin Nozhko, member of the board of the Soviet Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with the Arab Countries and USSR deputy minister of education, opened the celebration. Nozhko said that it has become a tradition to celebrate the national day of Kuwait at the House of Friendship. He added that Kuwait was a friendly country with an important history. The USSR follows with extreme interest economic and social developments in Kuwait and shares its pleasure at its achievements throughout the years of its independence. The good relations between the USSR and Kuwait, Nozhko said, are constantly developing, and trade, economic and cultural cooperation between our two countries are constantly growing. The Soviets evaluate positively the results and scope of this cooperation and call for the continued development of Soviet-Kuwaiti relations for the good of both countries. The traditional friendship between our two countries contributes to the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and helps to deepen understanding and serve the general cause of peace.

Adil Korbanov, member of the board of the Soviet Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with the Arab Countries and editor of the Arabic-language newspaper ANBA MOSCOW [MOSCOW NEWS] said: [Begin recording] His excellency Mr Ambassador, Adil Najm ad-Din al-Jarrah. The 25th of February is Kuwaiti national day. Large sections of Soviet public opinion join the Kuwaitis in celebrating this day. This tradition proves the spirit of friendship and good relations existing between our two countries and the exertion of efforts by Soviet social circles to develop and bolster friendship and cooperation with Arab countries. [end recording]

Adil Korbanov then referred to the positive development of Soviet-Kuwaiti relations and to the fact that the USSR and the State of Kuwait take close stands on many issues and identical stands on others. He highlighted the identical stand of both countries on the Middle East conflict and said the Middle East conflict is an extremely complicated issue facing the contemporary world. In conclusion, Korbanov wished the friendly Kuwaiti people further successes, happiness and prosperity.

In his reply, Kuwaiti Ambassador 'Adil Najm ad-Din said: [Begin recording] In all sincerity, we hold in high esteem the Soviet Union's political and diplomatic efforts to find a just, comprehensive settlement for the conflict in our area whether in Palestine or Lebanon or the gulf war. We are completely grateful for the support and comprehensive help the USSR offers to the Arabs in general and the Palestine people in particular. Furthermore, we are happy to see understanding and cooperation between us and the peoples of the USSR grow in the political, cultural and economic fields as well as in village [qarawiyah] fields.

We look with sorrow at the events of last year and the years before it and look with great concern at the current year. But there is a ray of hope that reason and wisdom will prevail and that this year will be the year of decisive responsible decisions that will establish justice, eliminate the gloom, free the world from the specter of arms, and open before it the vistas of peace and life in cooperation, harmony and amity with all.

Long live our Soviet-Kuwaiti friendship. Long live our Soviet-Arab friendship.

Kuwaiti Ambassador Statement

LD262116 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast; statement by Kuwaiti Ambassador to the USSR 'Adil Najm ad-Din al-Jarrah on the occasion of Kuwait's national day -- in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] ['Adil Najm ad-Din al-Jarrah is shown speaking to camera] Dear friends. It is a pleasure for me to meet you on the occasion of the 22nd anniversary of our national day. This year the Kuwaiti leadership does not consider this date as a festival, but a moment for reflection and assessment. For that reason it cancelled all official and public celebrations usually held each year on this day. The Kuwaiti leadership thus expresses the pain it feels over the Arab blood that has been spilt and over the constant suffering of our Palestinian people. It is also a sign of protest against the villainous Zionist occupation of Arab lands, which is spreading like a cancerous tumor, and is an expression of profound concern at the continuing ruinous war in the gulf, which threatens not only the security and stability of our region but universal peace as well.

Dear friends, on these and other questions in the course of the 20 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Kuwait and the USSR we have asked advice on exchanging opinions with the Soviet leaders at all levels and in all spheres. Our relations are based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and complete mutual understanding with regard to the positions each side takes. And here we are guided by justice and truthfulness, far from the ploys characteristic of some who present untruth as truth.

We in Kuwait have toward the Soviet Union and the friendly Soviet people a feeling of profound respect and gratitude and we place high value on the Soviet political and diplomatic efforts and initiatives aimed at searching for a just and all-embracing settlement of the Near East problem.

We are delighted at the hospitality and warm atmosphere in which the talks were held between the Soviet leaders headed by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the Arab seven-man delegation headed by King Husayn. We are glad of the openness and objectiveness with which the Moscow talks were held in July last year between USSR Foreign Minister Grokyko and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the State of Kuwait. We are very grateful for the support and all-round help which the Soviet Union provides to the Arab peoples and above all to the Arab people of Palestine. We also place high value on all the Soviet peace initiatives aimed at ridding mankind of the threat of war and preserving peace on our planet.

In conclusion allow me to wish the Soviet people happiness and prosperity. Thank you for your attention.

ARAB TU, AUCCTU DELEGATIONS MEET IN MOSCOW

LD262307 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 26 Feb 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Rafael Arutyunov]

[Text] The visit to the USSR of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions [ICATU] led by Secretary General of the confederation Ahmad Jallud has ended. The delegation visited Moscow in response to an invitation issued by the AUCCTU and conducted talks with an AUCCTU delegation led by Chairman of the Central Council Stepan Shalayev. The talks ended with the signing of a protocol on cooperation between the AUCCTU and the ICATU and a joint statement.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and understanding and affirmed the deep unity of the interest of the Arab trade union movement and the Soviet workers and their mutual endeavor to consolidate solidarity and unity. The delegations pointed with satisfaction to the unity of their stances on all the important issues of our time and of the world trade union movement -- namely, the struggle for peace throughout the world, for halting the arms arce, for nuclear disarmament and for establishing an international economic order based on justice, equality and respect for peoples' rights. Special attention was devoted to questions pertaining to the struggle against the Zionist aggression and the imperialist machinations in the Middle East. The AUCCTU and the ICATU condemned the aggression against Lebanon and affirmed solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people for their legitimate rights. They expressed their support for Syria, which is facing threats by the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary forces.

The two organizations strongly condemned the U.S. policy of provoking and threatening the Libyan Jamahiriyah. The ICATU delegation greatly appreciates the support of the Soviet workers for the struggle of the Arab peoples and the working class in the Arab countries in defense of sovereignty and national dignity.

Communique Issued

LD241529 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 24 TASS -- The working class and the trade unions of the entire world should step up their efforts for removing the threat of thermo-nuclear conflict and for preserving peace and promoting disarmament, says the join communique of the Central Council of the Soviet trade unions and the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions. The document has been signed today by Stepan Shalayev, chairman of the Soviet trade unions, and the confederation's General Secretary Ahmad Jallud.
Delegation of Arab trade unions has been in the Soviet Union since February 21 at the invitation of the Soviet trade unions.

The document points out that both sides strongly denounced the barbarous and criminal act of aggression against Lebanon, unleashed by the Zionist invaders with the United States' direct moral and material support. They protested against the policy of massive genocide pursued by the Tel Aviv army in Lebanon against Palestinian and Lebanese civilians.

The Soviet and Arab trade unions reiterated their solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people for the right to return to their homeland, for self-determination and for establishing an independent national state. They reaffirmed the need for the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the only legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine problem. The communique voices support for the Syrian Arab Republic, facing the threats and perfidy of the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

The delegations of the Soviet trade unions and the Confederation of Arab Trade Unions reiterated their unconditional solidarity with the just struggle waged by patriots in southern Africa against the Pretoria racist regime and for the elimination of the shameful system of apartheid and colonial oppression in Africa.

The delegation signed a protocol on cooperation, defining guidelines for the development of contacts between the Central Council of the Soviet trade unions and the international Confederation of Arab Trade Unions.

GULF PETROLEUM MINISTERS MEET IN RIYADH

LD251046 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 23 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] The petroleum ministers of six Persian Gulf countries have gathered in the Saudi Arabian capital to draw up a common strategy on oil prices policy. Algeria has already called on the oil-exporting countries, all the OPEC members to meet at an emergency conference to prevent a price war. The point is that in the last few years oil prices have been falling on world markets. This reduces the incomes of the oil-exporting countries. It is thought that a price war may lead to a reduction of no less than $30 billion in the revenue from oil sales of the 13 OPEC countries. So the petroleum ministers of the six countries meeting in Riyadh will seek a means of maintining oil prices and preventing a reduction in revenue from its sale.

Last year, OPEC fixed the price of oil at $34 a barrel, or $250 a ton. But in January this year competitors offered oil on the world market much more cheaply, at $29 a barrel. If oil prices continue to plunge, it will lead to bankruptcy for many of its producers. That is why the petroleum ministers have now met in the Saudi Arabian capital, Riyadh.

BRIEFS

CULTURAL COOPERATION WITH PDRY -- Moscow February 24 TASS -- A plan of cultural and scientific cooperation between the Soviet Union and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen provides for further development of bilateral cooperation in all spheres of science, culture and education in 1983-1984. The plan was signed here today. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1858 GMT 24 Feb 83 LD]

SHCHERBITSKIY EXAMINES ACHIEVEMENTS, TASKS

AU237727 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 16 Feb 83 p 2

[Article by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary: " To Improve the Quality of Work Is a Matter for All and of Everyone" -- passages in uppercase published in boldface]

[Text] The third year of the 5-year period has begun with a businesslike rhythm of work. United in the fraternal family of the Soviet Union's peoples and closely rallied around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, our republic's working people are persistently working to implement the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

WITH THEIR WORK AND PRACTICAL DEEDS, THE COMMUNISTS AND THE PEOPLE OF THE SOVIET UKRAINE ARE MANIFESTING THEIR UNANIMOUS SUPPORT FOR THE DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY PURSUED BY THE LENINIST PARTY, FOR THE DECISIONS OF THE NOVEMBER 1982 CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM, FOR THE THESES AND CONCLUSIONS SET FORTH BY COMRADE YU. V. ANDROPOV, CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GENERAL SECRETARY, IN HIS SPEECH AT THE PLENUM AND IN THE REPORT ON THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE USSR.

The broad socialist contests for the successful fulfillment of the plans and pledges for 1983 and the 5-year period as a whole, for increasing returns from the production potential created, for accelerating scientific and technical progress, for applying the experience of advanced workers, and for encouraging discipline, good organization and personal responsibility for commitment in each sector of work -- these are the main components for success in accomplishing the tasks ahead of us.

In drawing up concrete targets for the current year and the ways to attain them, it is important everywhere to profoundly and thoroughly scrutinize the results of what has been done in the first 2 years of the 5-year period in order to find the omissions, unutilized possibilities, and to determine additional measures for raising the effectiveness of work in all branches of the national economy.

The report published recently by the Ukrainian Central Statistical Administration shows that LAST YEAR THE REPUBLIC'S ECONOMY DEVELOPED IN LINE WITH THE DIRECTIVES SET BY THE 26TH CPSU CONGRESS. THE RESULTS OF THE 2 YEARS OF THE 5-YEAR PERIOD ARE CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF THIS. In that time, for example, the republic's national income increased 6.3 percent and, last year, reached nearly R86 billion. The value of fixed assets put into operation totaled R38 billion. This striking figure applies to new power blocks put into operation at the Chernobyl, the Rovno and the south Ukrainian atomic power stations and at the Zuyevka Gres no. 2, to the Dolzhanskaya Kapitalnaya and the Zapadno-Donbasskaya No. 21-22 mines, to the Nikolayev aluminum plant, the Kiev cardboard and paper combine, to new sections of the Kiev subway, to stockbreeding complexes and other large facilities. The 2-year plan for commissioning houses was overfulfilled. It is a pleasure to note favorable trends marked in the increasing effectiveness of capital investments.

In agriculture, the last 2 years, like the preceding ones, were unfavorable weatherwise. But it is to be pointed out that the rural toilers offset the worsened climatic factor with improved organization and mastery based on technical equipment, chemicalization, land amelioration and the achievements of science and practice. Compared with the 10th 5-year period, the average annual procurements of grain, sunflower seeds, potatoes, fruit, grapes and eggs have increased.

While abiding by the decisions of the May 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum and by the tasks set in the Food Program, the republic's agricultural workers cultivated better grain, sugar beet, fodder and other crops than in 1981. Our menu is richer in vegetables and fruits.

THE 5-YEAR SOCIAL PROGRAM IS TAKING SHAPE IN DEFINITE FACTS AND FIGURES. In the past 2 years, the wages and salaries of the republic's workers and employees increased 4.7 percent and now average R162 monthly. The incomes of the kolkhoz peasants have increased. In the period under review, payments from the communal funds of consumption totaled R44 billion. More than 3 million persons improved their housing conditions. The material basis of health services further developed. New schools, kindergartens and nurseries hospitably opened their doors.

While duly assessing these results, we must, at the same time, draw earnest conclusions from the fact that the attained growth fell short of the targets provided by the 5-year plan and, for a number of items, by the current plans. A lag was incurred in such branches as ferrous metallurgy, the coal, meat and dairy industries. The enterprises of the Ukrainian Ministry of rural Construction also failed to cope with the plan. This attests to the fact that the republic is not accomplishing a number of important tasks in the way required in the decisions of the 26th party congress and the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum.

AT THE NOVEMBER 1982 CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM IT WAS NOTED THAT LABOR PRODUCTIVITY WAS THE MAIN INDEX FOR ECONOMIC EFFECTIVENESS. It firmly combines returns from scientific-technical progress with economic management, plan and labor discipline and party organizational work. To use a V.I. Lenin dictum, this is the main link which we must grasp firmly with both hands in order to hold the whole chain (Complete Collection of Works, Vol. 36, p 205). The republic's 1982 national economic plan calls for further raising labor productivity, particularly 2 percent in industry, 3.1 percent in construction and 11 percent in agriculture. These indexes are fully feasible, and to attain them is a matter of great importance for all working people, for everyone of us. This is also the objective of the very responsible and intensive socialist pledges assumed by the working people of the Ukrainian SSR for the third year of the 5-year period.

II.

The republic's 1983 plan for economic and social development calls for increased rates in economic development. THE TESTED WAY OF ACCOMPLISHING THIS TASK LEADS THROUGH THE FURTHER INTENSIFICATION OF ALL BRANCHES OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY. This factor is to be accountable for three-quarters of the total increase in industrial production. It is also important to put fixed assets more rapidly into operation, and in this connection more than two-thirds of capital investments have been assigned to projects which are about to be commissioned. Priority development rates are planned for developing the group "B" branches and for increasing the production of consumer goods.

Serious measures are to be taken to develop the agroindustrial complex and particularly to raise the output and procurements of farm produce in order to increase food resources. Provisions have been made to raise the per-capita incomes of the population by 3 percent. Payments and allowances from the communal funds of consumption will total R23.8 billion.

These tasks are not easy. But the fulfillment of the plans for the entire 5-year period largely depends on their accomplishemnt. For this reason, party committees, administrative and economic organs must make maximum use of the existing possibilities and of all reserves to attain and exceed the planned targets.

IN THIS RESPECT, IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO ECONOMIZE AND SAVE AT EACH SECTOR, AT EACH WORKPLACE. For many labor collectives, this is now a necessary condition to make the set plans feasible. Such an approach is characteristic, for example, of the collective of the Zaporozhye Gres. The enterprise has drawn up technological charts for a process calculated on the most economical performance of equipment. It has made efficient use of the production potential and of all existing resources. The enterprise workers have vigorously joined in contests under the slogan: "For a Collective of High Thrift." They were the first in the branch to win this title. In 1982 alone, the Zaporozhye Gres saved 5,200 tons of conventional fuel, which was equal to the production of 17 million kwh of electric energy.

An atmosphere of creative search also distinguishes the collective of the oxygen machinery scientific and production association in Odessa. The collective has been consistently economical in all sectors, has been systematically testing production for material consumption, and many valuable proposals have been made by its innovators. And here you have a concrete result: In the past 6 years, the association increased the volume of production 70 percent, without increasing the consumption of metal. Here you have a thrifty, zealous, and thus a party-like, approach to the matter.

The accomplishment of the 1983 tasks will depend largely on the stability of work in the basic branches.

IN FERROUS METALLURGY, the results of work will be determined by putting new capacities into operation, by the accelerated renewal of fixed assets, by the increased capacity of the raw material basis, and by the mechanization and automation of labor-consuming processes. But let us be frank, if we fail to combine these key tasks organically with a clear production organization at workplaces, to eliminate stoppages, to observe technological requirements and to tighten labor discipline, there will be delays in returns.

IN THE COAL INDUSTRY, it is necessary to consolidate the stable rhythm and to raise the output to the level attained last year by many mines and longwalls. In this field, there are appreciable reserves. Once again, they are inherent in the good organization of the matter, in discipline and responsibility.

Whoever has seen in good time that good organization, order and discipline were powerful means to raise the effectiveness of production has entered the third year of the 5-year period in good creative spirits. Such labor spirits are now characteristic of mining collectives in Donetsk Oblast. While competing in honor of the 60th anniversary of the USSR, they produced 2 million tons of coal above plan. The examples of highly productive work were set by the miners of the Krasnoarmeysk, the Donetsk, the Sovietsk coal, the Shakhtersk and the Thorez anthracite associations. The annual target was attained 6-8 weeks ahead of schedule by the collectives of 51 mines, 970 sectors and brigades, and by more than 6,000 cutters.

The neighbors -- party and trade union functionaries, coal mining enterprise leaders and collectives in Voroshilovgrad Oblast -- are aware of these indexes. But one should not only be aware of advanced experience, but also make sensible use of it. This is precisely what some collectives in that oblast lack. And this is the reason why many mines are failing to ensure that scope lines are prepared on time, are poorly using mining equipment, and are incurring big losses in worktime. But Voroshilovgrad Oblast does not lack good beacons. For example, the brigade under socialist labor hero A.Ya. Kolesnikov in the Molodogvardeyskaya mine, the Krasnodon coal association, worked under difficult conditions and reached the targe set for the third year of the 5-year period ahead of schedule. On the 65th anniversary of the Great October, the brigade fulfilled the pledges for coal supplies above plan adopted for the entire 5-year period.

ADVANCED EXPERIENCE IS THAT EFFECTIVE RESERVE WHOSE USE DOES NOT REQUIRE EXTRAORDINARY MATERIAL OUTLAYS OR RADICAL REFORMS IN PRODUCTION. Each creative idea or initiative has, as they say, two sides: Effectiveness and inexpensiveness. Indeed, in our country, advanced experience is a common property. This truth is better known in advanced collectives which are always ready both to share their experience and to adopt the experience of others, and less known in the collectives which seem to be in need of grasping valuable innovations by both hands. Such passiveness is manifest wherever the leaders have lost the feeling of innovation and wherever the level of educational work is low. The practical requirement of life is to possess the feeling of perspective and to work daily for the success of tomorrow. A person without these qualities resembles a certain bird: While it is still able to turn, it can never fly.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PROGRESS IS A POWERFUL LEVER LIFTING THE ENTIRE ECONOMIC WORK TO A HIGHER LEVEL. In the first 2 years of the current 5-year period alone, the application of new equipment and progressive technologies was accountable for an increase in the national income of about R3 billion and for two-thirds of the increase in labor productivity. Provisions have been made for mechanizing and automating in 1,700 enterprises, shops and sections in the third year of the 5-year period, for putting 2,200 automatic and assembly lines into operation, and for switching over more than 216,000 workers from manual to mechanized and automated labor. The plan calls for putting 79 automated control systems into operation.

The republic has worked out and is implementing a system of measures to accelerate scientific-technical progress. We have good experience in this respect, too. The mass movement under the slogan "Let Us Draw Maximum Returns from Production and Scientific Potential" is spreading at Kharkov Oblast enterprises. The oblast's production and scientific collectives are successfully fulfilling the comprehensive plans for applying scientific papers. In this way they have already saved R1.2 billion since the beginning of the 5-year period.

Scientific-technical progress finds application in progressive technologies, new production items and valuable devices. But it is a matter that is very "human" in nature, it results from the will, persistence and responsibility of our cadres, of our scientific and labor collectives. And I would like to particularly emphasize that scientific-technical progress primarily yields fruit wherever the factor of constant party influence is effective. In this respect, the example set by Kiev Gorkom which, many years ago, formed a council for promoting scientific-technical progress is revealing. The city's enterprises are implementing more than 2,000 agreements on creative cooperation with scientific collectives and are carrying out comprehensive programs for important social and economic problems. All this helps to steadily raise labor productivity and production effectiveness.

Or let us take tasks involving the IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOOD PROGRAM. Certainly, the main thing in this field is to concretely increase yields and stockbreeding production, that is, to really increase the supplies to the population. For this reason we must encourage cadres, labor collectives and party organizations not only to fulfill the plans and socialist pledges, but also to overfulfill them as much as possible and in this way to maximally reduce the arrears incurred in preceding years.

To ensure an increase in the production of grain and other crops this year, it is highly important to prepare for and to carry out the spring field operations rapidly and on time. A scientific and production conference on increasing the stability and productivity of grain farming was held in the republic late in January. It adopted recommendations prepared by scientists as well as by kolkhoz and sovkhoz specialists and managers. They are to be followed in practical work, naturally enough, taking into account the concrete conditions of each zone, of each rayon and farm.

The next pressing task confronting agriculture is to raise the output and procurements of stockbreeding produce and to carry out cattle wintering in an organized way. Compared with the last winter season, most oblasts have increased animal productivity, as well as meat, milk and egg procurements. That is good. But we must proceed from the point of how far this increase corresponds to the existing possibilities, the annual plans and socialist pledges.

The analyses and calculations made by specialists show that the existing fodder resources, the number of cattle and the rates achieved enable many farms in the winter season to meet -- and even to exceed -- the annual targets for increasing milk procurements. The same applies to meat production. Party committees and basic party organizations should keep the accomplishment of this task at the center of their attention.

Those are the main lines along which we are expected to work. They also define practical tasks for party organizations, administrative organs and economic leaders.

III.

THE FEASIBILITY OF OUR PLANS LARGELY DEPENDS ON ANOTHER POINT: THE STATE OF LABOR DISCIPLINE, ORDER AND GOOD ORGANIZATION AT EACH WORKPLACE.

Who is the first to attain production successes today? These are collectives which make full use of scientific and technical achievements, which adopt advanced experience and vigorously enhance labor contests. But all that depends on the primordial condition: firm and inflexible discipline in labor, in technology and in the plan.

THE APPEAL BY OUR PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE WITH REGARD TO THIS POINT HAS MET WITH UNANIMOUS APPROVAL AMONG THE SOVIET PEOPLE.

Whoever works conscientiously, who is honest to his collective, his family and himself has always liked strong and reliable discipline. Discipline and order are only unacceptable to those who try to profit by the advantages offered by socialist society without bothering to give anything in return, to those who are actually sponging off the humaneness of our social relations.

Phenomena as ugly as lack of discipline, slovenliness, greediness and sponging off are socially dangerous because of their negative effects on the collective and because they defy the ethical values of the socialist way of life.

The problem has been tackled correctly by the workers themselves: An atmosphere of intolerance toward any breaches of labor and public discipline should be created in every labor collective, and every instance of tardiness, truancy, unauthorized absence from the shift and reporting for duty in a state of intoxication should be regarded as an unusual event. The workers' conscience does not tolerate laxity and irresponsibility. The laborer has always been for strict order, and duty and honor are for him supreme values.

While addressing Moscow machine tool builders, COMRADE YU.V. ANDROPOV EMPHASIZED: "WE NEED A CONSCIOUS WORKERS' DISCIPLINE, A DISCIPLINE ABLE TO ADVANCE PRODUCTION. WE MUST FILL THE STRUGGLE FOR DISCIPLINE WITH GREAT SUBSTANCE, LINK IT DIRECTLY TO THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF PRODUCTION TASKS, AND THEN THERE WILL BE NO, TO SPEAK, SPINNING OF WHEELS [PUSTOY VYKHLOP]. WHAT HAS BEEN DRAWN UP BY THE NOVEMBER CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM OF THE PARTY WILL THEN BE IMPLEMENTED."

Indeed, life convincingly attests to the fact that each labor collective draws its strength primarily from discipline.

The fact that the Dnepr tire production association named after the 25th CPSU Congress, in Dnepropetrovsk, has constantly been winning prizes in all-union contests and that it is renowned for the high quality of production and for efficiency is based on the constant quest for and the utilization of technical reserves, on improvements in technology, on the development of creativity and initiative. But all that is based on strict discipline. The association has adopted a tire manufacturers' labor code of honor, follows a set of moral norms and disciplinary rules. A firm barrier against breaches of discipline has been provided by councils for preventing offenses, voluntary cadre councils and comradely courts.

PRACTICE CONFIRMS THAT BRIGADE CONTRACTING IS A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE FORM OF LABOR ORGANIZATION. Its adoption also appreciably affects the state of labor discipline because the brigade itself, being interested in its high production output, resolutely gets rid of poor workers. This is why each party organization is expected to promote brigade contracting.

In order to further consolidate discipline, good organization and order, it is necessary to make use of the strength of socialist contests. The observance of strict production and labor discipline must take its due place in the socialist pledges made by labor collectives. More than 22 million persons are now participating in socialist contests in the republic. The point is to reinforce this large number with the concreteness, moral obligation and quality of contests. The fulfillment of socialist pledges must all the more so become a rule of worker's honor.

While actively encouraging the laborers to compete in a comradely way to attain high production indexes, we must at the same time resolutely eradicate manifestations of formalism and indifference in this patriotic movement of the millions. The pledges made occasionally prove to be unfounded, and their figures have no justification either in calculations, or -- so to speak -- in the heart. There are also lovers of initiatives abundant in phrases but lacking in concrete deeds. Those who like to talk a lot while making pledges but who prefer to keep silent about their fulfillment only hinder authentic contests. There are also lovers of "reports" on any occasion, even on routine labor results.

SOCIALIST CONTESTS ARE AN ENORMOUS FORCE IN ACCOMPLISHING THE 5-YEAR TASKS. And this force of labor enthusiasm and moral example should become a reliable factor in setting production straight.

Educational work centered on man and on man's needs, interests and individual character is a well-tested means to strengthen labor discipline. In this connection, an increasingly important role should be played by such voluntary institutions for control and education as workers' meetings, continuous production conferences, the councils of labor honor and communist labor schools. At the same time, the repertory of educational measures should be supplemented with the duty to observe the norms of behavior in socialist society. Authentic laborers live and work in accordance with their consciences and with the lase, and they are right to expect the same from the others.

Shortly before the beginning of the third year of the 5-year period, Moscow collectives issued a call to put production in strict order, to erect a barrier against breaches of labor discipline, and to regard the slogan: "Only Work Performed Entitles One to Respect and Honors" as a rule for the worker's life. Our republic's labor collectives have joined in this patriotic movement.

In their appeal published recently in RABOCHAYA GAZETA, veterans and young representatives of the Dnepropetrovsk production enterprises proposed to take resolute steps with regard to those who hinder us from living honestly and working selflessly. They demanded that all those breaking discipline and those conniving with them be brought to strict account. The law must be more resolutely applied to all those who try to live at the expense of others. In this respect, there must be no indulgence. Our principle is: He who does not work does not eat. Let us erect a strong barrier against any breaches of discipline. In our opinion, it is high time to work out statutes for the labor collective clearly defining requirements for each member of the collective -- from the laborer to the director.

Those were legitimate demands in line with the needs of life. We can and must use the strength of the law and of public opinion to compel everyone to observe the norms of our socialist society. SOVIET RULE IS A RULE BY THE PEOPLE AND FOR THE PEOPLE, AND IT CANNOT AFFORD, AS V.I. LENIN NOTED POINTEDLY, A "JELLY-LIKE CONDITION" WITH REGARD TO THOSE WHO WORK POORLY, WHO TRY TO GRAB FROM SOCIETY AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND TO OFFER IT INSTEAD AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE. [Complete Collection of Works, Vol. 36, p 190).

Party organizations and communists have spearheaded a nationwide drive to strengthen discipline, to observe the norms of the socialist way of life, to foster good organization and order at each workplace. The party member's personal example is inseparable from the ability to practically implement party decisions.

Today we are sufficiently experienced in economic matters and are sufficiently clear-sighted in politics to draw up a long-term line and to adopt a correct decision. Unfortunately, some party organizations frequently regard an adopted decision almost as the final result of their work. And the internal party life of those collectives flows accordingly: From one correct decision to the next, just as convincing as the first and that is all.

We must be as business-like and serious in fulfilling party decisions, fully and in every detail, as we are in adopting them. Matters advance not by the strength of the decision adopted, but by organizational work, by persistence and responsibility in attaining the targets set. At party meetings, reports on the fulfillment of previously adopted decisions must be a rule of party life.

An attentive and respectful attitude toward cadres has been firmly established in our party. At the same time, one must say straight out that respect and support do not imply full absolution or some liberal acceptance of excuses instead of a concrete result. While thinking about the ways of fulfilling the targets for the year or the 5-year period as a whole, we must resolutely get rid of the "ability" to find excuses for our miscalculations and omissions. While summing up the results of management, some leaders are too frequently hiding behind the shaky wall of "objective causes." And here we are: Since "objective causes" -- the weather, various disproportions and misunderstandings -- cannot be brought to account, the negligent functionary gets out of trouble, as they say, without a scratch. And yet, if we examine the matter on principle, in a party-like way, there is always someone to be brought to strict account, there is a definite functionary responsible for definite shortcomings.

PARTY ORGANIZATIONS MUST BY ALL MEANS INCREASE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CADRES, MUST EXERCISE EFFICIENT CONTROL OVER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS ADOPTED, AND MUST MOBILIZE LABORERS FOR EFFECTIVE WORK. What makes the party organization the political nucleus of the labor collective is the fact that it attracts the best ideas and aspirations of people, that it gives an internal stimulus to activity, initiative and socialist contests.

The third year of the 5-year period is gathering speed. Difficult and complex tasks are confronting each branch. But we can and must collectively find the right ways to accomplish them. Each party organization, all labor collectives, ministries, departments, and every one of us -- from the laborer to the leader -- must look for these ways.

It is absolutely obvious: The success of our endeavors lies in daily purposeful, persistent and disciplined toil. The better we work, the better we live. If we make use of existing reserves, the painstaking plans will be fulfilled. This is a matter of our collective and personal responsibility to the entire 5-year period, to the party and our people.

ROY MEDVEDEV VIEWS ANDROPOV REGIME'S WORK STYLE

PM241129 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 22 Feb 83 p 4

[Soviet dissident Roy Medvedev article: "Andropov's First 100 Days"]

[Text] In the past every change of CPSU leader has invariably led to major changes in the Soviet Union's domestic and foreign policy. However, these changes have never taken place very quickly. In the first 100 days since Breahnev's death there have been no changes even vaguely comparable with those which generally take place during a U.S. President's first months in the White House or after a government changeover in France, West Germany or Sweden.

A power handover in the Kremlin is often described in the Western press as "the accession of a new monarch" [transkifte]. But the Soviet Union is not a monarchy. The new leader simply takes over the old leader's post, not his influence or his power. He has to acquire influence and power in a more complicated political way. A change of President in the United States means that almost all the administration is swiftly replaced. When Olof Palme comes to power it means that Prime Minister Falldin has to go together with the whole Swedish Government. In a one-party system like the Soviet Union's nothing like that happens. No minister or Central Committee member has desired or needed to resign because of Brezhnev's death. The new leader takes over the old leader's post and the whole of his administration. This has both its advantages and its problems for him.

Thus it is not part of the new party leader's duties to formulate a new "government program." On the contrary, in his first public appearances Yuriy Andropov declared that all the decisions reached by the Central Committee in the last few years still stand and comprise his program. However, he did indicate that he will implement these decisions in a more energetic way than was the case during the last few years of Brezhnev's speeches. Andropov declared: "The party and the Soviet people must devote themselves to action and not to noisy slogans." At the same time the new general secretary give a clear a indication of his priorities, that is, what problems he will devote most attention to in the coming months, and perhaps years.

There are several troublesome problems in Soviet foreign policy. The most important of these are the new U.S. missiles in Western Europe. There is good reason to compare the Soviet Government's concern about these with the worries which affected President John F. Kennedy and members of his administration when they discovered that the deployment of Soviet missiles had begun on Cuba. Yuriy Andropov has put forward a series of new proposals concerning the "Euromissiles." The proposals are an important step toward a compromise. In the present situation nothing can be put off until some time in the future. For 1983 is the year in which the Soviet Union and the United State must decide whether to begin a new round of the arms race more dangerous and more expensive than previous ones.

The next most important questions to which Andropov and his colleagues will devote particular attention is the normalization of relations with China.

In the field of domestic policy Yuriy Andropov is bound to try primarily to strengthen the national economy, which has moved into dangerous imbalance in recent years. Andropov has explained that he does not have ready recipes for how the difficult economic problems are to be solved. Nor are any new economic reforms expected in the next few years. However, there will be various experiments and studies in this field. Without proposing new economic solutions, Andropov has initiated a campaign to strengthen discipline within production and administration. This is also the dominant theme in the Soviet press at present. "In our age," a PRAVDA editorial said, "overall economic and social development in the country requires that attention be paid to questions of how discipline can be strengthened and work planning improved in a decisive way. Everywhere the exemplary order which Vladimir Ilich Lenin described in 'The Great Initiative' must be implemented so that the most favorable conditions for effectively productive work are created." (21 January 1983)

It should be said that during the Brezhnev epoch, order and discipline decreased both in the economy and the state administration.

Many people worked badly. This was an important reason for the dissatisfaction which grew among broad sections of the population. The new campaign to strengthen discipline and work planning has therefore won the support of the majority.

However, the campaign has taken a form more designed to frighten than to win over the majority of the population: Mass control of identity documents in the lines for goods which are in short supply, on suburban trains, in cinemas, at baths, hairdressing and beauty salons (carried out by the militia and voluntary order activists) and extremely strict punishments for breaches of discipline.

Humiliating checks on people who have in no way violated working discipline, such as shift workers and women who are unable to solve practical family problems because of stores' and workshops' [ateljeer] clumsy way of functioning. At any rate it is not the fault of ordinary workers and civil servants that some goods and foodstuffs are in short supply or that work at many construction sites and factories makes jerky progress. Nor is there much point in workers and civil servants now arriving on time, if they do not start work until 1 and 1/2 to 2 hours after the beginning of the working day.

Finally, another point on Andropov's personal program: The fight against corruption which increased in breadth and depth during Brezhnev's last years in office. This problematical disease has affected not only a large number of lower but also some higher groups within the administration of the state, national economy and party. Things had gone so far that even some relatives of Brezhnev, Party Secretary Kirilenko, Interior Minister Shchelokov and others were involved in various shady dealings. Bribes have become a common phenomenon and this has given rise to great dissatisfaction amongst the population. However, the fight against corruption is receiving scant coverage in the press and has not any particularly enthusiastic support among Central Committee circles. Officials in responsible positions are only paying lip service when they express approval of Andropov's new line.

The last 3 months' changes and reshuffles at the higher levels of the party and state apparatus have not been very significant, but they should be pointed out. Geydar Aliyev, who until recently was boss of the party organization in Azerbaijan and once worked in the security service, has been appointed first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers (the government). He has also become a full member of the Politburo. Aliyev has been entrusted with a difficult task -- the creation of order in the Soviet transport system which has become a bottleneck in the Soviet economy.

The next most important change in the administration is that Brezhnev's old friend and close colleague Nikolay Shchelokov has been dismissed from the post of interior minister. The Interior Ministry has responsibility for all militia units, domestic troops, prisons, corrective camps, customs and the departments which issue visas and exit permits. This important ministry's method of working has long been a cause for complaint, but Brezhnev dismissed the criticism of his friend. A security professional, Vitaliy Fedorchuk, has been appointed interior minister. Between 1970 and 1980 Fedorchuk was chief of the Ukrainian KGB and from May 1982 was head of the Soviet Union's security service.

Longtime KGB Deputy Chairman Viktor Chebrikov has been appointed to the very important post of chairman of the KGB. In the fifties and sixties he was a party functionary in the Dnepropetrovsk area.

The 76-year-old Aleksandr Struyev, who for 20 years was head of the Soviet Trade Ministry, has been pensioned off. He has been succeeded by Grigoriy Vashchenko, who in recent years was deputy government head in the Ukraine.

There have been also considerable changes at the highest levels in the party apparatus, an influential body with many staff has disappeared: the general secretary's secretariat.

Brezhnev did not stop increasing the number of personal assistants and report writers, and each of these formed a his own group of assistants and report writers. From the whole of this machine Andropov has retained as his assistant Andrey Aleksandrov-Agentov, a Central Committee member who was Brezhnev's foreign policy adviser. Andropov tries to gain a personal understanding of all important business and wants to maintain a very small secretariat.

Yevgeniy Tyazhelnikov has been dismissed as head of the Central Committee's Agitation and Propaganda Section. This is one of the most important subsections in the system of party ideological bodies. The post is now held by Boris Stukalin, former chairman of the State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade.

N.N. Slyunkov has succeeded the late Tikhon Kiselev, first secretary of the Belorussian Central Committee, At present he is not even a member of the CPSU Central Committee. Thus we can see that preparations have begun for the election of a new Central Committee. However, the elections will not take place until the CPSU's ordinary party congress in 1986.

Contrary to all expectations and despite various predictions no one has yet been appointed chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, that is, formal head of state. At present these duties are being carried out by First Deputy Chairman Vasiliy Kuznetsov.

Primarily because of the advanced age of many of the holders of highest office, further reshuffles and appointments are expected in the spring and summer of 1983. But there have been no signs of struggle or sharp disputes surrounding the reshuffles which have already taken place. Judging by all appearances these are only happening with the agreement of all the Politburo members.

Not only the personnel changes but also the changes in working style in the Central Committee's rejuvenated leadership are of significance. During the first days in his new post Yuriy Andropov showed that he is one of those leaders who works a lot and who loves to work. He arrives at his office in the Kremlin much earlier than Brezhnev did, even when he was relatively healthy. Andropov is considerably more strict with his aides than Brezhnev was. He is a man of few words. His official statements have been short. His speech at the jubilee session of the Central Committee and the USSR and RSFSR Supreme Soviets lasted barely an hour -- one-third or one-quarter of the time that speeches have lasted in the past at similar meetings. On many issues the new leader prefers to make his views known on the telephone or at short meetings in his office. The new leader is obviously little inclined to sacrifice much time on "official representation." There has been less "protocol" in the press and on television. Measured in Soviet terms newspapers and periodicals have been given a more critical content. Criticism is primarily directed at the economic situation. A new element in the working style is that reports of the Politburo's regular meetings are published, and these give a summary of certain items on the agenda, especially questions of foreign policy, the national economy and services. The reports are intended to show that the leadership is aware of the people's needs and is exerting itself to satisfy them.

BAGIROV SPEAKS ON NATIONALITIES, PROGRESS

WA251825 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 15 Dec 82 pp 2-4

[Speech by K.M. Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, at the solemn meeting of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet devoted to the 60th Anniversary of Founding the USSR on 14 December in Baku]

[Text] Dear comrades!

Our solemn meeting was marked by a stirring, unforgettable event. Just now the Azerbaijan SSR was presented the red banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee. The republic was honored with the high award for victory in the all-union socialist competition, successes achieved in economic and cultural construction, the great contribution to the development of the country's unified national economic complex and on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of founding the USSR. The motherland's red banner was left with us to keep perpetually. From now on it will become an everlasting symbol of labor heroism of the Azerbaijani people, a symbol of triumph of the nationalities policy of great Lenin's party.

On this joyous and fortunate day, participants in the solemn meeting and all workers of the republic send words of heartfelt gratitude to the Leninist CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee for high appraisal of Soviet Azerbaijan's achievements, for the honorary award.

We are deeply grateful to Comrade Boris Pavlovich Yakovlev, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission and chief of department of the CPSU Central Committee, for the warm words addressed to the party organization and workers of the republic and for the good wishes.

Allow me, dear comrades, on behalf of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the Azerbaijan SSR to warmly and sincerely congratulate you and through you all people of Soviet Azerbaijan on this great and well-deserved award. We warmly congratulate workers of the republic on the upcoming great holiday of all peoples of our multinational fatherland -- the 60th anniversary of founding the USSR.

On this solemn day, with special feelings we greet and thank veterans of the Leninist party and the civil and Great Patriotic Wars and heroes of the first 5-year plans and postwar revival for great contribution to formation and development of a unified Soviet state, defense of the October achievements on the field of battle and selfless labor, which multiplied our country's economic and defensive might. We highly value your active, tireless work in the communist training of Azerbaijan workers and, first of all, of our youths. Sincere thanks, good health and long life to you, dear comrades!

We wholeheartedly thank the heroic working class, the glorious kolkhoz peasantry, the remarkable intelligentsia, our party, soviet, trade union, Komsomol and economic cadres and all who forged our common victory in the all-union socialist competition for unshakable loyalty to the good tradition of the seventies and inspired creative labor on the watch in honor of the 60th anniversary of founding the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Our sincere congratulations to workers of the Nakhichevan ASSR, the capital of Azerbaijan -- Baku, the city of Mingechaur and Bardinskiy, Dzhalilabadskiy and Lenkoranskiy Rayons and collectives of enterprises, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, construction projects and organizations -- winners in the all-union socialist competition for proper welcome of the 60th anniversary of founding the USSR. We warmly congratulate workers of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast, the city of Ali-Bayramly, Leninskiy Rayon of Baku City and Agdamskiy, Apsheronskiy, Vartashenskiy, Imishlinskiy, Ismaillinskiy,

Kubatlinskiy, Neftechalinskiy, Fizulinskiy, Khanlarskiy, Shekinskiy and Shemakhinskiy Rayons and workers' collectives who won red banners of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers, the AzSSR Trade Unions Council [ASPS] and Azerbaijan Komsomol Central Committee in the republic's jubilee competition.

The Azerbaijani people and workers of Azerbaijan send their sincere congratulations and very best wishes to the peoples of the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Lithuania, Moldavia, Latvia, Kirghizia, Tajikistan, Armenia, Turkmenistan and Estonia whose selfless labor and great successes in the socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of founding the USSR were marked by red banners of the motherland.

Comrades! The Azerbaijan SSR has been awarded the red banner for the 13th year in succession. But the present award makes us especially happy, it is especially dear to us. It was won in the jubilee year of our unified multinational state, in the socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of founding the USSR.

Brought forth by genius of great Lenin and created by the will of the people, our unbreakable, powerful Union of Soviet Socialist Republics strikingly and convincingly demonstrates to all mankind the great transforming power of Marxism-Leninism, the great creative role of the Communist Party and historic superiority of the socialist social system.

Direct continuation and development of the Great October cause -- the founding of the USSR was an outstanding landmark in world history. For the first time in mankind's social practice, social and national oppression was liquidated in the Soviet state, profoundest socialist transformations in all spheres of life were implemented and the nationalities question -- one of the most complex and dramatic questions of world development -- was solved completely, definitively and irrevocably.

That which great Lenin had visions of was accomplished and became a reality. "We want a voluntary union of nations," Vladimir Ilich said, "a union that would not allow any oppression of one nation over another -- a union, which would be based on complete trust, on clear sense of fraternal unity, on fully voluntary consent." (Complete Works, Vol 40, p 43). It is precisely in the multinational Soviet Union that century-old aspirations of the working people for friendship and fraternity of peoples were realized and the noble ideals of proletarian, socialist internationalism were implemented. The unification of all forces, means and possibilities of numerous peoples in a united socialist state had gigantically accelerated the progress of revoluntionary transformations and made it possible to overcome their former century-old backwardness and achieve the heights of modern civilization within the briefest historic periods.

In reviewing the traversed path and summing up the results of that which was accomplished, we say with pride: everything that was achieved is a great feat of the first trailblazers, labor heroism of the people and foresight and humanism of the Communist Party's nationalities policy.

The party's revolutionary experience, the entire 60-year history of the USSR strikingly testifies that the main source of all successes and achievements of our country is the firm unity of the party and the people and their loyalty to Lenin's behests. The might of our state is in the unity of classes and social groups of the Soviet society and in the international solidarity of all peoples. The greatness and power of our country is in the wise leadership of the Communist Party -- the militant vanguard of the Soviet people.

The continuity of internal and foreign policy, the close solidarity of the Soviet people in their support for the CPSU and the political insight of the Leninist Central Committee was demonstrated with a new force by the November (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the seventh session of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Central Committee's November plenum set forth tasks which define a new stage of struggle for implementing the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, further intensive growth of the socialist economy and raising the well-being of the people. Communists and workers of Azerbaijan welcomed the plenum decisions and the speech delivered at the plenum by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, with deep satisfaction and unanimous approval. They wholeheartedly support the invariable Leninist course of the CPSU and the Soviet state and the political and organizational activity of the Party Central Committee and express warm gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee and the Politburo of the Central Committee for constant concern for developing the economy, strengthening the defensive might of our motherland.

Comrades! Soviet Azerbaijan is an offspring of the Great October, an advanced post of socialism in the east. Together with the entire country, workers of our republic are welcoming the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Union with great successes in the economy, social life, science, culture and sociopolitical development. And behind all achievements in the Azerbaijani people is the titanic work of the Communist Party, the united might of the multinational Soviet state and friendship, assistance and support of the fraternal peoples of the USSR.

On the eve of the jubilee of the multinational Soviet state, we express with special feelings our warm gratitude to the Communist Party, the Leninist Central Committee, the Politburo of the Central Committee and the Soviet government for their great concern for Soviet Azerbaijan and flourishing of its economy and culture. We express sincere gratitude to Soviet Russia, the Russian people and all peoples of our country for the great and disinterested assistance to our republic at all stages of history of socialist and communist construction.

Communists, the people of Azerbaijan vow that they will always be loyal to the friendship and fraternity of Soviet peoples and will protect as an apple of their eye this invaluable possession of the land of soviets. Under the banner of proletarian socialist internationalism, under the party's tested leadership they will make fresh gains and advance from victory to victory.

Comrades! The founding of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was a natural result of those fundamental socioeconomic and political changes which were drawn forth by the Great October Socialist Revolution. The October victory brought social and national liberation to all peoples of Russia and created basic prerequisites for a socialist solution of the nationalities question as well as other major problems of social development.

The first historic documents of Soviet power -- "The Declaration of Rights of Peoples of Russia" and the appeal "To All Muslim Workers of Russia and the East" -- expressed its resolve to create a free, voluntary and strong union of equal peoples and to unite workers of all nationalities in the country into a genuine communist fraternity. The Communist Party under V.I. Lenin's leadership gradually, with great patience and tact, formed and strengthened this union of peoples and their international cooperation and accumulated experience in forming and developing of formerly unprecedented socialist intra-national interrelations.

The center of attraction of all Soviet republics, which were established by the peoples of the country in the course of the revolution, was Soviet Russia. Russia, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia formed federative relations on the basis of bilateral agreements as well as in the form of uniting some republics into a military-political, economic and diplomatic union. The objective progress of the historic development itself and the unity of goals and interests put demands on the agenda for a much close unification of Soviet republics into a single Soviet state.

By deeply and thoroughly generalizing the newest social practice, V.I. Lenin advanced and scientifically based a principally new idea and plan for creating a multinational socialist state based on voluntary and equal unification of nations and nationalities. Enormous theoretical and practical work was implemented under his leadership and the concrete organizational forms, which were embodied in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, were defined.

The Leninist idea of the necessity of close unification of Soviet republics and creation of a single multinational Soviet state was warmly supported by workers and developed into a genuinely nationwide unification movement of Soviet republics. Soviet Azerbaijan was among the initiators of founding the Union of the SSR. In numerous resolutions, letters and telegrams to the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party (of Bolsheviks) [VKP(b)] and V.I. Lenin workers of the republic warmly approved the idea of creating the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

An important landmark of this powerful unification movement was the creation of the Transcaucasian Federation. The Soviet power opened a new page in the history of century-old friendship of the peoples in Transcaucasia and cleared the way to international unification of their efforts. Vladimir Ilich Lenin was the inspirer and leader in creating the Transcaucasian Federation of Soviet Republics.

The first Transcaucasian Congress of Soviets was held on 10 December 1922 in Baku. Nariman Narimanov, who chaired the congress, in expressing thoughts and feelings of Transcaucasian workers, stated that "a true road to freedom, fraternity and triumph of labor" opened that day.

The first Transcaucasian Congress of Soviets adopted a decision to establish the Transcaucasian Socialist Federated Soviet Republic (ZSFSR) and on its admittance to the Union of the SSR. In a greeting telegram addressed to V.I. Lenin congress delegates wrote: "On establishing a lasting national peace as a guarantee of the invincibility of Soviet power in Transcaucasia and on joining the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as a single family, we express our firm confidence that under your tested and skillful leadership and under the banner of Comintern we will achieve here, on the threshold of the East, a mighty strengthening of the Soviet power and revival of our unified economy."

Sixty years later today, in summing up the results of the path traversed by the Azerbaijani, Georgian and Armenian peoples in the international cooperation of peoples of the USSR, we proudly state that in a single family we came to genuine "fraternity and labor triumph." Leninist genius is embodied in the historic victories of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. Our accomplishments today are a triumph of V.I. Lenin's immortal ideas and deeds.

The apotheosis of the enormous and versatile activities of V.I. Lenin and the Communist Party in the unification of fraternal republics was the first All-Union Congress of Soviets. Its delegates represented dozens of nations and nationalities of our vast motherland.

The congress unanimously confirmed the declaration and agreement on founding the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. On 30 December 1922, a multinational socialist state having no precedent in history came into existence. A new epoch began in the communist system of chronology, in the historic destinies of peoples. "For thousands of years," said M.I. Kalinin at the first All-Union Congress of Soviets, "great minds of humanity have labored on the theoretic problem in search of forms that would provide people an opportunity to live in friendship and fraternity, without struggle. Only now, today, the first stone is being practically laid in this direction." The peoples of our country have raised a majestic edifice of their common house, their happy life on the monolithic foundation that was laid in 1922.

The first Congress of Soviets elected four chairmen of the USSR Central Executive Committee [TsIK]: M.I. Kalinin, G.I. Petrovskiy, A.T. Chervyakov and N.N. Narimanov. The election of Nariman Narimanov was tribute of respect to the Azerbaijani people, to all peoples of Transcaucasia.

Comrades! The past 60 years were filled with deepest socialist transformations and rapid socioeconomic development of the Soviet Union and all its republics. During this period, national income increased many times and the volume of industrial production increased 537-fold. Our state's share in world industrial production increased from 1 percent in 1922 to 20 percent at present. Currently our country turns out approximately as much industrial production as all West European countries put together. In the output of many most important kinds of industrial production, the USSR is considerably ahead of the United States -- the most developed country of the capitalist world.

As a result of implementing the Leninist cooperative plan, fundamental transformations occurred in agriculture. Soviet science and our culture have advanced to the most leading positions in the world.

The Soviet Union has achieved a high level of people's prosperity, whose systematic growth is the highest goal of the economic policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet state. Our country's workers do not know what unemployment is, we have the world's lowest level of payments for apartments, free education and medical aid and various benefits paid for by the state. Much more housing is being constructed in the Soviet Union than in any other country of the world. With due regard for expenditures for housing and sociocultural construction, four-fifths of the entire national income is directed toward people's well-being.

Our outstanding achievement -- the monolithic ideological and political unity of the Soviet state, its invincible defensive might, high international authority. Socialist internationalism has become a law of our life, it has entered the flesh and blood of the Soviet people. It is that mighty weapon which helped and helps us to win labor victories, pass tests with honor and to seek and find ever new reserves for accelerated movement ahead.

The Soviet socialist state and the unity of peoples of the USSR have passed the severe trials of war with honor. Together with all peoples of our country, sons and daughters of Azerbaijan heroically fought on the fronts of the Great Patriotic War. Workers of Azerbaijan made a great contribution to crushing fascism through their work in the rear. Under most difficult conditions Baku oil workers uninterruptedly supplied fuel to the army and the country's national economy, producing almost three-fourths of all Soviet oil. This feat of the republic's oil workers is a striking and unforgettable page in the heroic annals of the Soviet people's military and labor courage. We are also proud that our republic was a military arsenal, which supplied the Soviet Army with arms, ammunition, equipment, uniforms and foodstuffs.

The Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War has even more united the peoples of the USSR into a single fraternal family, instilled enormous creative energy in them and opened a new stage of peaceful labor and construction of a new life.

The feeling of collectivism, internationalism and social community and friendship and fraternity of nations and nationalities of the USSR is also an inexhaustible source for improving public relations, which have become most important facets of the Soviet way of life and inspiring stimulus of social and spiritual progress of all peoples of the Soviet Union.

As a result of profound changes in all spheres of life of our multinational society, which occurred during the years of socialist construction, a historically new social and international community of people has been formed -- the Soviet people. United in its structure on the basis of principles of proletarian and socialist internationalism, all

classes and social groups and all nations and nationalities of our country now come forward as a united mighty socialist collective of workers who are confidently conquering new heights.

The world historic achievements of the multinational Soviet people, advancing along a difficult and unbeaten track of first trailblazers anddiscoverers, inspire fighters for peace and social progress and national liberation and independence in all parts of the planet. There is no such country, such an ideological and political trend which did not experience on itself to one extent or another the influence of the ideas of socialism and the Soviet state.

Experience has confirmed Leninist foresight that the new social system brings forth fundamentally new international relations, which are free of discrimination, domination and subordination that are characteristic of the capitalist system.

An example of such relations is demonstrated by the fraternal socialist countries. They are an embodiment of a new socialist type of interstate relations which are based on the community of fundamental interests and goals and Marxist-Leninist ideology and strengthened by ties of comradely solidarity, mutual assistance and comprehensive cooperation.

The Soviet Union together with all fraternal socialist countries acts as a stronghold of peace and security of peoples. Under conditions of aggravation in the international situation, caused by the policy of imperialism and, first of all, by American imperialism, a persistent, purposeful and energetic foreign policy activity of the Communist Party, the CPSU Central Committee, the Politburo of the Central Committee and the Soviet Government is of paramount significance for the fortunes of mankind.

Guided by the peace program for the eighties, which was advanced by the 26th CPSU Congress and supplemented by subsequent Soviet initiatives, the Communist Party and the Soviet state show to the world realistic and constructive ways for reducing the threat of war, deepening detente and developing broad cooperation of states with different social systems.

The Soviet Union's peace-loving policy is an effective counterbalance to the striving of aggressive circles of imperialism to impose on the world a new round of arms race and to constantly inflame the international situation. This is a policy of a firm rebuff to the aggressive aspirations of imperialism, it is a policy of defending the interests of peace throughout the world.

Workers of Azerbaijan, like all Soviet people, unanimously support and approve the foreign policy activity of the CPSU and the Soviet state. Wholeheartedly and from the bottom of their soul they express warm gratitude to the Leninist party for constant concern for ensuring reliably the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and everlasting peace on our planet.

Comrades! The Communist Party founded by Lenin is the organizer and inspirer of socialist and communist construction and of all victories and achievements of the Soviet people. It is a recognized leader of all workers, a leading and directing force of our society. Its titanic political, organizational and ideological activity has ensured a steady growth of the Soviet state's economic and defensive might, the unity and solidarity of its peoples and consolidation of the Soviet country at positions of mature socialism. Its unshakable internationalism has united nations and nationalities of the USSR into a united historic community of people and opened a broad path to them to all-round flourishing, friendship, fraternity and mutual trust.

Being loyal to Lenin's behests and Leninist principles of the nationalities policy, the party is tirelessly looking after the all-round development of every nation and nationality, combining this with concern for all-round development of the entire Soviet

state, and has been persistently and purposefully educating workers in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism and proud feeling of belonging to a unified great Soviet motherland.

The strength of the party and of its policy is in tireless creative development and enrichment with new experiences, new achievements. An outstanding contribution to theory and practice of communist construction and to strengthening the multinational Soviet state, whose 60th anniversary we are solemnly celebrating, was made by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. A great role belongs to him in developing and implementing the party's economic and sociopolitical strategy and foreign policy at the stage of developed socialism, in defining and implementing the course aimed at raising the well-being of the people and in further strengthening our country's economic and defensive might. Leonid Ilich has done very much in developing socialist democracy and in strengthening the unity of our society, the friendship and fraternity of peoples and the flourishing of every Soviet republic, including Soviet Azerbaijan.

Our sunny republic and its transformed ancient and wonderful land and flourishing culture are a striking life-asserting example of the mighty strength of socialism and friendship and fraternity of peoples and a living embodiment of the triumph of the Communist Party's Leninist nationalities policy.

Among the remarkable results of the republic's development are fundamental changes in industry. Before the revolution and for many years after the victory of Soviet power, Azerbaijan was mainly known as the country's oil base. Currently its industry is represented by 100 dynamically developing sectors. In 1981 the output of chemical and petrochemical, machine building and metalworking and light and food industries accounted for more than 76 percent of overall volume of industrial production. In six decades (1922-1982) the volume of industrial production increased 146-fold. We now produce 12 times more production in 1 month than during the whole of 1922.

Only 1 percent of production increase in 1982 exceeded the republic's entire volume of production in 1922 by a factor of 1.4. Our electric power stations are generating 86 times as much electric energy as in 1922. The daily output of electric energy at present would have required 120 days 60 years ago, of sulfuric acid 225 days, of cotton fiber nearly 2 years and of raw silk 165 days.

During the years of Soviet power, 465 major industrial enterprises were constructed and put into operation and hundreds of production facilities already in operation were renovated, expanded and modernized. We have acquired new industrial centers and new socialist cities and have increased severalfold the industrial potential of Kirovabad, Nakhichevan and Stepanakert.

Production of Azerbaijan's industry is well known far beyond the borders of the Soviet Union. A total of 350 kinds of goods are experted to 80 countries of the world from the coast of the Caspian Sea. In addition tc traditional petroleum products and oil field equipment, the republic supplies products of the chemical, electric engineering, radio engineering, light and food industries to the international market.

Truly revolutionary changes have occurred in agriculture. Its gross output has increased almost 13-fold during the past 60 years. Socialist principles have been firmly established in agriculture, which is being confidently developed on an industrial basis. Tens of thousands of tractors, grain and cotton harvesting combines, motor vehicles and other mechanisms are working the fields of the republic. The first tractors appeared in Mugan in 1922, today every farm in the republic has an average of 26 tractors, 16 trucks, 3 grain harvesting combines, 6 tractor-drawn cultivators, 11 tractor-drawn plows and other equipment.

The republic has implemented a grandiose program of housing and cultural and domestic service construction. Residential houses with an overall living space of more than 52 million m^3 have been constructed with the funds from the state, kolkhozes and the population. Nearly 400 people receive new comfortable apartments daily.

Hundreds of general education schools have been constructed as well as a large number of preschool and outpatient polyclinic institutions, hospitals, houses of culture, clubs, motion picture theaters, trade and public dining enterprises, hotels and other social facilities.

On the basis of radical transformation of economy, a fundamentally new socialist social structure has been formed, which united in a working union the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and the people's intelligentsia. Compared with 1922, the number of workers and employees has increased 15.7-fold. Nearly 87 percent of those new employed in the national economy have higher and secondary (complete and incomplete) education.

The Soviet power has opened to workers a broad access to knowledge and riches of spiritual culture. More than 100,000 young men and women are obtaining higher education in the republic's 18 VUZ's. Some 2.4 million people participated in all types of education in 1981. This means that we have every second resident studying.

Among numerous important signs that characterize swift sociocultural development, I would like to especially note such an indicator as book publishing. Suffice it to say that the number of books and pamphlets published in 1981 is 70 times greater than the level of 1922. We publish an average of 1.4 million copies of newspapers daily with an annual circulation of 515 million copies. Behind this outwardly bare listing of figures is the emancipated consciousness of an ordinary worker and the establishment in his way of life of high spiritual needs. In the basis of these transformations are the victory of socialist ideology, enormous successes in the development of education, science, literature and the arts.

In all fields of sociopolitical and economic life, science and culture, an important role is played by Azerbaijani women whom the Soviet power forever freed from social oppression and unequal position in the family. Women constitute the majority of teachers and physicians. They work as engineers, agronomists and ministers and many women head enterprises and farms and occupy leading positions in science and culture. They expend enormous effort in raising children. I would like to say with deep gratitude that our wonderful women cope remarkably well with their numerous and complex responsibilities in production and in the family.

There are many indicators testifying to great successes achieved by the republic in the fraternal family of peoples of the USSR. But the most important and most valuable achievement of socialism are the people themselves who are creating physical and spiritual values, the builders of new life. Workers of Azerbaijan have absorbed the best qualities of new man, have mastered the heights of modern civilization and confidently march in the vanguard of first builders of communism.

One of the most important results of that which has been achieved is the national revival of the Azerbaijani people and their inclusion in the rapid process of independent historic creativity. On becoming masters of their destiny, they also came into possession of richest spiritual heritage created by preceding generations. It is precisely during the Soviet epoch that leading figures of ancient Azerbaijani culture have acquired civic rights in the spiritual life of our people and were made a part of modern culture. It is precisely under the sun of socialism and relying on the mighty strength of the multinational Soviet state that the Azerbaijani people assumed their proper place among the peoples of the USSR and the whole world.

The Azerbaijani people are united with all peoples of the USSR by inseparable bonds of community of historic fortunes and fundamental interests, state and political organization and communist ideology. Friendship and mutual assistance of the fraternal peoples have become the most important source of all achievements of our people and their happiness and well-being. The decisive role in this belongs to the great Russian people. It was precisely their lot to be the first to carry out the noble mission of implementing the ideals of freedom, equality and fraternity of peoples. The Russian people have made an invaluable contribution to practical solution of the nationalities question and to uniting the peoples of our country into a unified fraternal family. Their generous and disinterested assistance has raised the oppressed nations to heights of contemporary social progress.

At all stages of history of the Soviet state, the Russian people marched and still march in the vanguard of builders of new life, rendered and continue to render constant assistance and support to all peoples. Friendship with the great Russian is a great social wealth. The Azerbaijani people have acquired their genuine happiness in friendship with the Russian people. The socialist achievements of Soviet Azerbaijan are linked to the fraternal assistance and support of the Russian people and all peoples of our country. The Azerbaijani people see their duty and their sacred responsibility to cherish and strengthen in every possible way the great friendship with Russia, the Russian people and all peoples of the USSR.

Comrades! The great strength of ideas of Marxism-Leninism and the inexhaustible possibilities of the Soviet system have been revealed more completely during the stage of developed socialism. This period was marked by a gigantic growth of socialist production, multiple increase of the Soviet state's might and well-being and strengthening of the social homogeneity of our society.

The role of the CPSU's leading, directing and organizing activity in the life of the people increased even more. The political basis of the Soviet state -- the soviets of peoples deputies -- became more stronger. The historic achievements of mature socialism were legislatively secured in the new USSR Constitution, constitutions of Soviet republics and the basic law of the Azerbaijan SSR.

Soviet Azerbaijan has also achieved outstanding successes on the mighty foundation of mature socialism. The republic's economy and culture have achieved unprecedented heights and its sociopolitical life became richer and more versatile.

The seventies and eighties have been recorded as golden pages in the history of Soviet Azerbaijan and our party organization. Since August 1969, some 13 years ago, when a plenum of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee revealed serious shortcomings and errors in party management of the national economy, personnel policy and training work, radical reorganization and improvements in mass political, economic-organizational and ideological activities of party, Soviet, trade union, Komsomol and economic organs have been made.

Industry and agriculture have been developing at a steadily increasing rate and plans and socialist pledges have been fulfilled year after year by all basic sectors of the national economy. As a result of purposeful and high-principled activity of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and its Bureau, which for 13 and 1/2 years was headed by Geydar Aliyevich Aliyev, the Leninist norms of party life and Leninist style of work have been firmly established in the republic, the party, state, planning and labor discipline has been strengthened, high demands are now combined with respectful attitude toward personnel and a unified front of uncompromising struggle against antipodes of socialist morals has been established.

The energetic, consistent work of the Azerbaijan Communist Party and its Central Committee has elicited a great surge of political and labor activity of the masses, mobilized them toward heroic accomplishments and achieving record gains and led them to creating a healthy moral and political atmosphere in the republic.

I would like to cite just certain facts which characterize the dynamics of the republic's development in the seventies. The volume of industrial production has increased by a factor of 2.2 and of agricultural production by a factor of 2.1. Azerbaijan's contribution to the country's unified national economic complex has increased considerably. In two 5-year plans our republic's relative share in the overall volume of industrial production of the USSR increased by 32 percent and in agricultural production it almost doubled.

Azerbaijan was the first among union republics to fulfill the tasks of the 10th 5-Year Plan ahead of schedule by 4 years and 2 and 1/2 months. The motherland has crowned the labor heroism of the Azerbaijani people with a third Order of Lenin. In multiplying

traditions of the seventies, Communists and workers of the republic are persistently implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and plans of the 11th 5-Year Plan. The tasks for 1981 and 1982 were fulfilled ahead of time and for the 13th year in a row workers of Azerbaijan won the victor's red banner in the all-union socialist competition.

Behind these glorious successes and achievements, comrades, is the enormous and comprehensive assistance of the Party Central Committee and the Soviet Government, which is being constantly rendered to our republic. Of historic significance are the five special resolutions of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers on the development of the Azerbaijan SSR's economy, which were adopted in the seventies. They are a striking and convincing testimony of steady and creative implementation of the Leninist principles of the nationalities policy adapted to concrete conditions and situations. These documents have armed Communists and workers of the republic with a concrete program of economic and social construction. They are alive and active and are being put into practice, ensuring consistent intensification of Azerbaijan's national economy.

Our republic's economy is an indissoluble composite part of the USSR's unified national economic complex. Our successes, our advances are a part of common achievements and common progressive movement of the entire country.

Comrades! The steady strengthening of fraternal friendship of all peoples of our multinational motherland is a program aim of the Communist Party, a subject of its untiring and all-round activity. "Our course," the 26th CPSU Congress pointed out, "is toward building up the material and spiritual potential of every republic and, at the same time, using it to the maximum for harmonious development of the entire country." Events and experience show that intensive economic and social development of every republic accelerates the process of their all-round convergence, which in turn stimulates and enriches the socioeconomic growth of the country as a whole and each of its regions individually.

The Communist Party of Azerbaijan, being invariably guided by the internationalist course of the CPSU, has been implementing extensive and many-sided activities aimed at strengthening friendship of the peoples of the USSR and expanding and developing international relations of Azerbaijan workers with workers of all Soviet republics. A special place in these activities is occupied by training of workers and our youths in the spirit of loyalty, profound love and gratitude to the great Russian people and to all peoples of the country for assistance and support. We are constantly striving for all-round development of the internationalist function of the Russian language -- a powerful means of intra-national intercourse -- and for further strengthening the atmosphere of fraternity and internationalism in every worker's collective, rayon and in the republic as a whole. These are the main directions of our daily work in international training of workers.

Our most important political and socioeconomic task is constant development of Azerbaijan's many-sided international relations with all republics and economic regions of the country. During the years of the 9th and 10th 5-Year Plans, the volume of interrepublican bartering more than doubled and currently totals more than 60 percent of the republic's gross social product. More than 40 percent of our requirements for industrial production are covered by importation from other republics. At the same time, nearly 50 percent of industrial production turned out in Azerbaijan is exported.

Azerbaijan occupies one of the leading places in the country as regards the output of petroleum products, oil field equipment, steel pipes, nonferrous metals, motor vehicle tires, mineral fertilizers, building materials, synthetic rubber, electric motors, electrothermic equipment, cotton, woolen and silk fabrics, rugs and rug goods, household air conditioners and many other kinds of goods supplied to all republics and krays and oblasts of the Soviet Union.

At the same time, the successful functioning of Azerbaijan's economy is ensured by deliveries from fraternal union republics of ferrous and nonferrous rolled stock, machine tools and equipment, tractors, combines, motor vehicles, various tools, household appliances and machines, lumber, sewn goods, fabrics, footwear, sugar, meat, animal oil, canned fish, radio receivers, television sets and many other goods without which our national economy cannot exist and develop and the daily life of the population cannot proceed normally.

The entire country helped us to construct new enterprises, to build whole cities, to master new production and to train personnel for them. Sumgait and Mingechaur, Ali-Bayramly and Dashkesan, Neftyannyye Kamni and the household air conditioners plant, the Baku subway and large electric power stations -- all of this and much, much more that has been created and is being created in Azerbaijan is a result of joint labor, friendship and mutual assistance of all Soviet republics and all peoples of the USSR.

This mutual assistance and cooperation has been embodied in all our deeds, both large and small. Enterprises of many union republics are helping us in developing new prospective oil and gas deposits in the Caspian Sea. More than 30 scientific research and planning organizations and enterprises of the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Georgia, Latvia, Moscow and Leningrad as well as other cities are participating in creating floating drilling rigs, new kinds of equipment and mechanisms, pipes and drilling tools.

Azerbaijan oil workers, who at one time rendered fraternal assistance in creating a second Baku in Zavolzhye and Priamurye, are today actively participating in developing new deposits in Western Siberia, Turkmenistan, Mangyshlak, the Ukraine and Belorussia.

Azerbaijan has become a genuine personnel training center for the country's oil industry. The republic produces 70 percent of all operational equipment, which is being successfully used at deposits in the Far North, Western Siberia, Bashkiria, Tataria, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Central Asian republics and other oil regions.

The most important task and duty of party, Soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations, economic organs and all worker's collectives of the republic is to continue untiringly increasing Azerbaijan's contribution to the economic might of the Soviet state and making deliveries in accordance with contracts on time and at high quality level.

Azerbaijan's sociopolitical, scientific and cultural ties with workers of the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Lithuania, Moldavia, Latvia, Kirghizia, Tajikistan, Armenia, Turkmenistan and Estonia have been growing year after year. Bonds of friendship and fraternity link workers of the republic with workers of Moscow, Leningrad, Arkhangelsk and Tyumen Oblasts, Ulyanovsk, Volgograd, Rostov, Taganrog, Gagarin, Novgorod, Tolyatti and many other cities and regions of Russia.

A powerful stimulus for raising the initiative and creative activity of workers and strengthening fraternal friendship and international unity of people is our republic's socialist competition with the Georgian, Armenian and Turkmen SSRs and individual rayons and enterprises of the Dagestan ASSR, the traditional competition of cotton growers of Azerbaijan and Central Asia and of workers of Baku, Tbilisi and Yerevan, Kirovobad, Kutaisi and Leninakan and Sumgait, Rustavi and Kirovakan and the labor competition that links 25 cities and rayons of the republic with 68 cities and regions of the country. Worker's collectives of 352 industrial enterprises, kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Azerbaijan are maintaining production and social ties with 656 worker's collectives of fraternal Soviet republics. The republic's scientific research institutes are participating in joint development of scientific problems with nearly 400 scientific institutions of the Soviet Union. The republic's higher school maintains ties with dozens of VUZs in the country.

Azerbaijan is a multinational republic with richest internationalist traditions which were forged by the Bolsheviks and the heroic working class in grandiose revolutionary battles. They were continued and developed during the years of socialist construction and were brilliantly embodied in militant and labor deeds of communists, workers, kolkhozniks and intelligentsia of Azerbaijan.

During the seventies, workers of the republic multiplied and enriched these traditions. The internationalist solidarity of the multinational Soviet Azerbaijan became even more stronger and fraternal mutual relations with workers of the Soviet land became even more deeper and versatile. During this period, the work related to international training and to strengthening friendship and fraternity of peoples was unprecedentedly expanded, its results increased, its concreteness and efficiency were strengthened and its forms were made more varied.

The spiritual community of fraternal peoples and intra-national interchange of artistic values and achievements acquired great scale and intensity. Joint ideological and cultural measures that are systematically conducted by the Party Central Committees of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan promote improvement of interrepublican relations and patriotic and international training. The practice of conducting days and decades of Soviet literature and of art, science and culture of fraternal Soviet republics has been firmly established in the cultural life of our republic.

We will always consistently implement the party's line on systematic development of international, sociopolitical and cultural relations, draw to the maximum all sections of the population into various forms of intra-national intercourse and improve socialist competition in every way possible and use it for strengthening the international and patriotic education of the masses. Obkoms, gorkoms and raykoms of the party, the Azerbaijan Trade Unions Council, the Komsomol Central Committee, ministries and departments must adopt even more effective measures aimed at practical implementation of the resolution of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee "On Measures for Further Development of International Relations of Workers of Azerbaijan With Workers of Fraternal Soviet Republics."

Being guided by principles of the Leninist nationalities policy, the Azerbaijan Communist Party has been conducting daily organizational and mass political work with consideration of national features of the population, manifesting concern and attention to social, cultural and linguistic interests and needs of all nationalities living in the republic and strengthening in every way possible the internationalist and moral and psychological atmosphere in worker's collectives.

During the years of Soviet power, especially during the stage of mature socialism, all nationalities living in our republic have achieved a high socioeconomic and cultural level. The Nakhichevan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic and Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast, which are a part of the Azerbaijan SSR, have traversed a great path of economic, social, sociopolitical and spiritual development. The all-round flourishing and growth in well-being of workers in autonomous formations of our republic is a striking manifestation of the triumph of the Leninist nationalities policy and atmosphere of internationalism and friendship of peoples who dominate in Soviet Azerbaijan.

The CPSU is a party of internationalists-Leninists. The Azerbaijan Communist Party, which is one of the oldest, militant detachments of the Leninist Party, is firmly loyal to traditions of proletarian internationalism. They are vividly embodied in the structure of our republic party organization, in all its practical deeds in its active and purposeful political, organizational and ideological work. In 1922 the Azerbaijan Communist Party united 8,276 communists of 40 nationalities. Now it has in its ranks more than 350,000 communists of 71 nationalities. The composition of leading party organs in the republic is international. Nearly 30 percent of secretaries of raykoms and gorkoms are representatives of another nation. Dozens of nationalities

are represented in all elected organs of Soviet power, ranging from local soviets of people's deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the republic, in all public and creative organizations and in leading positions in economy, science and culture. Strengthening of multinationality in the composition of party, Soviet and all other personnel categories is an objective trend caused by a natural process of internationalization of public life. It is important that this practice be constantly improved. Such approach, as experience proves, promotes international unity of workers and moral health of every worker's collective.

Thousands of multinational worker's collectives united by internationalist norms of life and daily behavior have been formed in Azerbaijan. The spirit of comradeship, mutual aid, labor cooperation and common vital interest in the affairs of their collective, their own republic and the entire country have become a striking feature of the Azerbaijan workers' way of life. Such is our reality and we are proud of it. Friendship and fraternity of Azerbaijanis, Russians, Armenians, Georgians, Lezghins, Avars, Jews, Tatars and representatives of other nationalities living in the territory of Azerbaijan is our great social and spiritual wealth, a great achievement. It was gained as a result of the party's Leninist nationalities policy and great and fruitful political and ideological work of the Azerbaijan party organization. We regard it as a sacred duty of today's inheritors of the glorious international traditions of the working class and all workers of Azerbaijan to multiply this wealth and to strengthen and develop the unity and cohesion of working Azerbaijan in the fraternal family of Soviet republics.

In conducting international training work, the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee aims party organizations at uncompromising attitude toward any, even slightest manifestations of national narrow-mindedness, egoism and tactlessness. They are deeply adverse to the very essence of communist ethics and communists of Azerbaijan see their task in persistent and general strengthening of internationalism as a fundamental criterion of ideological and moral maturity of every man.

Respect for and interest in national customs and traditions and concern for the development of culture and all its aspects must be harmoniously combined with deep and concerned attention to experiences, traditions and achievements of other peoples of the country and, first of all, to the richest treasure house of great Russian culture. An organic combination of patriotism and internationalism, which possesses great strength of spiritual, ideological and political and moral influence on people, must be in the basis of this work. It is the duty and responsibility of artistic intelligentsia and all creative unions of the republic to intrude into life energetically and to enrich our remarkable many-sided culture with new works of great talent. To learn from life and to fill the spiritual world of contemporary man with the wealth obtained from it and to shape him according to the laws of kindness and beauty and the laws of communist ethics is a wonderful and humane vocation. We are confident that masters of Azerbaijan's socialist culture will always be worthy of our times, the great banner of proletarian internationalism and the demands of the party and the people.

Our duty in accordance with the instructions of the 26th CPSU Congress is to untiringly train workers in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism and loyalty to the great Soviet motherland. The Azerbaijan Communist Party will continue to strengthen the fraternal bonds of friendship of workers of the republic with all peoples of the Soviet Union and multiply our contribution to the nationwide cause of communist construction. We will continue to steadily implement the Leninist principles of the party's nationalities policy and develop and deepen unity of the international family of workers of Soviet Azerbaijan.

Comrades! The year of the 60th anniversary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has gone into the history of our republic as a year of great labor achievements and of rich, large scale, sociopolitical and ideological events.

The republic has broadly expanded work in preparations for the jubilee of the USSR. Thousands of collectives of industrial enterprises, construction projects, kolkhozes and sovkhozes have worked well under the motto "60 Shock Workweeks in Honor of the 60th Anniversary of Founding the USSR." Joint labor watches of collectives competing against each other, exchange of leading experiences and meetings with party, war and labor veterans, leading workers, production innovators and participants in memorable events in the country's life have organically become a part of the republic's seething life. Holidays of literature and art of fraternal union republics, scientific and practical conferences, sociopolitical readings, theme soirees and dramatized performances were held under the sign of friendship of peoples everywhere.

This many-sided work was directed at revealing more deeply and convincingly our achievements and results of the Leninist nationalities policy and to make more active the activities of party organizations and ideological institutions in international and patriotic training of the masses.

Workers of Azerbaijan have kept their promise given to the motherland with honor by successfully fulfilling all socialist pledges assumed in honor of the jubilee. Like in the previous years, the republic's industry is developing at a high rate and has outstripped the outlines of the five-year plan. On 25 November, workers of the industry reported fulfillment of their 11-month plan ahead of schedule for marketing production and for turning out many most important kinds of goods. The volume of industrial production has increased by 5.6 percent instead of by 4.1 percent according to an amended plan. In 2 years of the five-year plan it has increased by 12.5 percent against 11 percent called for by the plan. Labor productivity has increased by 4.5 percent instead of by 4.2 percent according to the plan. Since the beginning of the five-year plan it has increased by 10 percent instead of by 8.7 percent as planned. More than 80 percent of the increase in industrial production has been achieved through increased labor productivity. The relative share of goods of highest quality in the overall volume of industrial production totaled 15.2 percent and has exceeded the plan. Fixed capital utilization efficiency and other technical and economic indicators have been considerably improved. A further rise in the technical level of production has been ensured as well as of improvement in the industry's structure and a more rapid development of sectors that determine technical progress.

We are rightfully proud of successes of our agricultural workers. In extremely difficult weather conditions they have raised and harvested high yields, exceeded plans and pledges and achieved record indicators in the procurement of nearly all kinds of agricultural production. The state plan for the procurement of grain was fulfilled by 115.5 percent, for grapes by 153.6 percent, for raw cotton by 138.4 percent, for vegetables by 116.8 percent, for fruits by 153.1 percent, for tea leaves by 140.5 percent, for potatoes by 163.6 percent and for melon crops by 117.8 percent. Procurement of fruits, potatoes and vegetables is continuing. It is expected that a high volume of tobacco will be delivered to the state -- at least 58,000 tons or 116 percent of the plan. Plans and socialist pledges for the output of livestock products are being successfully fulfilled. Annual plans for the delivery to the state of milk, eggs and wool have been fulfilled ahead of time. More livestock and poultry will be procured than last year. The successes of farm workers and livestock breeders achieved this year are the first good contribution to the realization of the country's food program. They have been appraised at their true worth in the greetings of the CPSU Central Committee.

This year in capital construction, like in the preceding years, was marked by a further increase in volumes of capital investments and construction and installation work and commissioning of a quite a number of major production, social and cultural and domestic service projects. The program for social development and further raising of workers' well-being is being successfully fulfilled.

In short, comrades, our republic made a major step forward in 1982 and also an appreciable contribution to the country's unified national economic complex. This is a

result of creative and selfless labor of workers, kolkhozniks and intelligentsia. The party's great plans are being converted into concrete deeds and living reality with their hands and minds.

The party and the Soviet fatherland have appraised the republic's successes at their true worth. Awarding of the red banner to Azerbaijan in the jubilee year is a striking expression of attention and concern and high appraisal of the achievements of workers and our party organization. We note with feelings of special satisfaction and pride that this high award worthily crowns the labor heroism of the Azerbaijani people and the great organizational and political work of the party organization for the 13th year in a row. Each of these years was marked by the republic's ascent toward new heights of economy, science and culture. Each year increased the authority and glory of Soviet Azerbaijan. Important items of our successes are intensification of competence and efficiency in all links of leadership, healthy dissatisfaction with that which has already been achieved, broadly developed criticism and self-criticism and uncompromising attitude toward shortcomings.

A deep analysis of factors which ensured achievements of the republic was provided by Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev in his speech in Baku at celebrations devoted to awarding of the third Order of Lenin to the Azerbaijan SSR. The key to these successes he said "is first of all in the fact that the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee headed by our esteemed Comrade Geydar Aliyevich Aliyev have been in the main, consistently and energetically implementing the party line. In the fact that party, Soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations and economic organs of the republic have been acting in a well-coordinated manner and purposefully and, as the saying goes, have been shooting at the same target."

The party organization and the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee will strive to continue working in a well-coordinated and purposeful manner and to consistently and energetically implement the decisions of the 26th congress and the November (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee in order to mark the eighties with new great successes.

Comrades! The republic's successes are great and we are rightfully proud of them. However, it is not our tradition to be satisfied with what has already been achieved. It is our duty to move forward, to achieve greater things by all means. For this purpose it will be necessary to use the richest experience of organizational and political work accumulated by the republic's party organization in the seventies and eighties, to improve its forms and methods in all links and to build in accordance with party demands.

We have much work ahead. We talked about it at the recently held plenum of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee. The plenum discussed the tasks of the republic's party organization ensuing from the decisions of the November (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the speech delivered at the plenum by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It is the duty of party, Soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations and economic organs to ensure successful fulfillment of tasks set by the party.

In the center of attention of the party organization, the soviets, trade unions, the Komsomol, ministries and departments must be concern for further rise in production efficiency and work quality, more complete utilization of existing reserves and opportunities, strengthening labor, technological, party and state discipline and elimination of shortcomings of which we have many. Our first responsibility is to achieve in the near future a fundamental improvement in the petroleum industry and to ensure an increase in the extraction of Azerbaijan oil.

We must increase our efforts daily to bring about successful realization of the food program. Livestock breeding is a shock front in the rural area. We are faced with the task of achieving a rise in the republic's livestock breeding that will better satisfy the population's needs for meat and dairy products. Solving this task is the duty and a matter of honor of party organizations and all rural workers.

We are beginning the third, the core year of the 11th 5-Year Plan. As you know the sixth session of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet has confirmed the plan for economic and social development of the republic for 1983. It calls for a high rate of growth in all sectors of the national economy, science and culture.

The solution of the great and difficult tasks in the coming year will require maximum mobilization of strength of worker's collectives and further rise in the level of organizational and political work of party organizations. As always, the success of the work must be ensured by our cadres. We expect from them even greater activity and efficiency, high demands to themselves and others and strict adherance to the norms of party life and Soviet laws. Every supervisor must be an example of personal modesty and of uncompromising attitude toward window dressing and deception. He must rely at all times and in everything on the opinion of the masses and be well aware of their concerns and attitudes.

A few days ago, a report was carried in the press that the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee considered the question regarding workers' letters which were lately received by the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. After deeply analyzing the content of the letters, the Politburo noted that they are testimony to the political activity of workers and their direct participation in perfecting the forms of managing socialist economy and that they are workers' mandates to party and Soviet organs.

Our task, as demanded by the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, is to achieve unconditional fulfillment of previously adopted decisions on the work with letters and organizing reception of workers, to attentively examine and solve questions raised in the letters and to eliminate shortcomings in the activity of party, state and economic organs, which cause well-founded criticism and complaints by Soviet citizens.

Comrades! The red banner, which was awarded to the Azerbaijan SSR for the 13th year in succession, inspires the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and intelligentsia of our republic toward new accomplishments. In response to the high award we must work even better and multiply the republic's contribution to the unified national economic complex of the country.

We want to assure the CPSU Central Committee, the Politburo of the Central Committee and the Soviet government that we will continue to consistently and energetically follow the party line, persistently implement its plans and outlines and not rest on our laurels.

Relying on the achievements in socioeconomic and cultural development and on the accumulated rich experience and closely united around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, communists and workers of Azerbaijan will continue to advance with a firm and broad step and will carry over the baton of their glorious labor deeds and achievements into the eighties. They see their duty and responsibility in marking 1983 with a victory in all-union socialist competition.

The progress of time is swift, the rate of our advance is rapid and the path of first trailblazers is difficult and complex. But the mighty pulse of the party's wise Leninist idea beats persistently, exactingly and optimistically in the rapid whirlpool of events -- historic and transitory -- and in the fervid everyday working life. It calls us to greater international solidarity and unity and to more energetic and fruitful labor. So, comrades, let us be always loyal to the lofty ideals of Leninism, socialist internationalism, the sacred friendship and fraternity of the peoples of the USSR and our international and patriotic duty to the Communist Party and the Soviet people.

Long live and flourish the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics!

Long live the inviolable friendship and fraternity of peoples of the USSR headed by the great Russian people!

Glory to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union -- the inspirer and organizer of all our victories!

(Comrade K.M. Bagirov's report was heard with great attention and was repeatedly interrupted by stormy applause).

JANUARY INDUSTRIAL PLAN FULFILLMENT FIGURES

PM231553 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 8, Feb 83
(Signed to Press 14 Feb 83) p 6

[Unattributed "Statistical Summary": "USSR Industry in January 1983"]

[Text] The EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA editorial office has received from the USSR Central Statistical Administration the following data on the work results of industry in January 1983.

In January 1983 the plan for the volume of output sales was fulfilled by 101 percent, and the volume of industrial production increased 6.3 percent compared with January 1982. Labor productivity increased 5.5 percent.

The indicators of the production activity of individual ministries are characterized by the following data:

All-Union and Union Republic Ministries and Departments	Percentage Fulfillment of January Plan For Output Volume	January 1983 as Percentage of January 1982	
		Production Volume	Labor Productivity
Power and electrification	100.3	100.9	98
Petroleum industry	101	102	99.5
Petroleum refining and Petrochemical industry	100.3	105	104
Gas industry	102	107	107
Coal industry	99.9	102	99.2
Ferrous metallurgy	100.8	107	105
Nonferrous metallurgy	101	110	109
Chemical industry	100.3	105	104
Production of mineral fertilizers	100.3	112	109
Power machine building	101	107	105
Heavy and transport machine building	101	107	107
Electrical equipment industry	100.3	110	109
Chemical and petroleum machine building	101	110	109
Machine tool and tool building industry	102	110	109
Instrument making, automation equipment and control systems	101	109	110

Automotive industry	101	106	105
Tractor and agricultural machine building	101	107	106
Machine building for animal husbandry and fodder production	101	115	112
Construction, road and municipal machine building	102	110	109
Machine building for light and food industry and household appliances	101	109	108
Timber, pulp and paper and wood processing industry	102	109	110
Construction materials industry	101	108	107
Light industry	100.5	103	105
Food industry	102	109	108
Fruits and vegetable farming	107	113	111
Meat and dairy industry	105	107	106
Fish industry	113	117	114
Procurement	102	105	104
Medical industry	100.5	114	113
Main administration of microbiological industry	105	129	124

With regard to the machine-building ministries, the Ministries of the Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood Processing Industry; the Construction Materials Industry; Procurement; and the Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry; which have been fully transferred to planning and assessment of activity according to normative net output, the data for that indicator have been cited.

The date for the union republics (including industry under union jurisiction) are cited below:

Union Republics	Percentage Fulfillment of January Plan for Output Sales	January 1983 as Percentage of January 1982 for Production Volume
RSFSR	101	106
Ukrainian SSR	102	106
Belorussian SSR	101	107
Uzbek SSR	101	107
Kazakh SSR	101	107

Georgian SSR	102	106
Azerbaijan SSR	100.3	104
Lithuanian SSR	104	108
Moldavian SSR	102	118
Latvian SSR	102	106
Kirghiz SSR	101	105
Tajik SSR	101	106
Armenian SSR	97	98
Turkmen SSR	102	109
Estonian SSR	103	109

Production of the most important types of output totaled:

Types of Output	Output Produced in January 1983	January 1983 as percentage of January 1982
Electricity -- billion kilowatt-hours	132	103
Oil (including gas condensate) -- million tons	52.7	102
Gas -- billion cubic meters	46.2	108
Coal -- million tons	61.8	100.2
Steel -- million tons	13.0	105
Rolled ferrous metal products (finished) -- million tons	9.1	107
Steel pipes -- million tons	1.6	105
Iron ore -- million tons	20.4	104
Mineral fertilizers (in 100-percent nutrient equivalent) -- million tons	2.5	112
Chemical plant-protection agents (Standard units) -- thousand tons	48.9	109
Sulfuric acid -- million tons	2.2	107
Synthetic resins and plastics -- thousand tons	369	107
Chemical fibers and yarn -- thousand tons	107	104
Motor vehicle tires -- millions	5.3	101

A.C. electric motors -- million kilowatts	4.5	107
Metal-cutting machine tools -- million rubles	173	108
Of which, those with numerical program control	41.1	113
Forging and pressing machines -- million rubles	50.4	106
Automatic manipulators with program control (industrial robots) -- units	405	133
Instruments, means of automation and spare parts -- million rubles	362	107
Computer equipment and spare parts -- million rubles	228	104
Oil apparatus -- million rubles	17.5	101
Chemical equipment and spare parts -- million rubles	66.3	107
Manufacturing equipment and spare parts for light and food industry -- million rubles	126	108
Mainline diesel locomotives -- thousand horsepower	329	99.7
Mainline electric locomotives -- thousand horsepower	290	95
Mainline freightcars -- thousands	5.2	105
Motor vehicles -- thousands	183	104
Tractors -- thousands	48.4	104
Agricultural machines -- million rubles	269	110
Machines for livestock raising and fodder production -- million rubles	194	109
Grain-harvesting combines -- thousands	9.7	114
Excavators -- thousands	3.6	102
Commercial timber (excluding small timber procurers) -- million cubic meters (trimmed)	28.1	103
Paper -- thousand tons	481	110

Of which, newsprint -- billion square meters	2.6	106
Cement -- million tons	10.6	108
Precast ferroconcrete (excluding output of subsidiary enterprises) -- million cubic meters	8.3	108
Textiles, all types -- million square meters	954	105
Knitted underwear and outerwear -- million items	136	103
Leather footwear -- million pairs	63.8	106
Meat (from raw materials of state resources) -- thousand tons	803	105
Sausage products (from raw materials of state resources) -- thousand tons	240	100.9
Edible fish products, including canned fish -- million rubles	449	120
Animal oil (from raw materials of state resources) -- thousand tons	59.0	125
Wholemilk products in milk equivalent (from raw materials of state resources) -- million tons	2.1	106
Margarine products (from raw materials of state resources) -- thousand tons	130	111
Vegetable oil (from raw materials of state resources) -- thousand tons	274	110
Clocks and watches -- millions	5.9	107
Chinaware and earthenware -- million rubles	73.7	107
Radio receivers -- thousands	745	115
Television sets -- thousands	673	108
Of which, color sets	259	117
Refrigerators and freezers -- thousands	494	103
Of which, those with a capacity of 200 cubic decimeters or more	235	114
Washing machines -- thousands	321	106
Motorcycles and motor scooters -- thousands	94.4	104
Furniture -- million rubles	565	109

Commentary on the Summary

The results of industry's work in January have been summed up. The plan for the volume of output sales was fulfilled by 101 percent.

The total volume of industrial production increased 6.3 percent compared with January last year, and labor productivity in industry increased 5.5 percent. Here it is also necessary to bear in mind the fact that there was one more workday in January this year than in January last year.

Increasing preferential rates of development were ensured in the gas industry, in a number of machine-building sectors and in the food, medical and certain other sectors of industry. Higher rates of development were achieved in Belorussia, Lithuania, Moldavia, Turkmenia and Estonia. Labor collectives extracted a considerable amount of coal, oil and gas over and above the January plan, as was also the case with the production of mineral fertilizers, chemical plant-protection agents, machinery and manufacturing equipment, motor vehicles, grain-and-potato-harvesting combines, machinery for livestock raising and fodder production, cement and consumer goods.

In the fuel and energy sectors electricity generation increased 3 percent compared with January last year, oil and gas condensate extraction increased 2 percent and gas production increased 8 percent. Production of gasoline and diesel fuel increased.

In ferrous metallurgy, while the plan for smelting iron and steel was fulfilled, less finished rolled metal was produced than planned, particularly in its economical form: rolled metal with toughening heat treatment and made from low-alloy steels, and less coke was produced than in January last year.

In sectors of the chemical, petrochemical and microbiological industries a considerable increase was ensured in the production of mineral fertilizers, chemical plant-protection agents and microbiological food protein. Less sulfuric acid, synthetic resins and plastics, chemical fibers and sulfonol was produced than the plan provided for.

In machine building a considerable increase was achieved in the production of industrial robots; manufacturing equipment for the food, meat, dairy and fish industries; and grain-, corn-, silage-, and fodder-harvesting combines. At the same time the fulfillment of the plan targets for the production of A.C. electric motors, bulldozers and individual types of agricultural machines was not ensured.

In sectors producing consumer goods the targets for the production of clocks, watches, radio receivers, refrigerators, freezers, furniture, cotton fabrics, a number of food products, goods in mass demand, essentials, chinaware and earthenware were overfulfilled. However, the production of color television sets, tape recorders, washing machines, woolen and silk fabrics, knitted goods, detergents, toilet and household soap and domestic chemicals was less than planned.

While fulfilling the plan for total output volume, a considerable number of associations and enterprises fail to ensure the delivery of output to customers in accordance with the contracts concluded and the job orders issued for execution. In January this year there was a particularly large number of such associations and enterprises in the petroleum refining and petrochemical industry, ferrous metallurgy; and the chemical, electrical equipment, timber, wood processing, pulp and paper and light industries. Customers did not receive from enterprises in these sectors between 2 and 8 percent of the output due to be delivered according to contracts.

Considerable oil, gas and chemical industry capacities and power transmission lines, including for the electrification of agricultural production, were commissioned in January. However, a number of important projects scheduled for commissioning back in the previous year were not commissioned.

The prescribed times for starting up the planned capacities of enterprises and projects commissioned in recent years are not always met. These include capacities for the production of ethylene and propylene at the Gorknefteorgsintez association of the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry; antifriction bearings at the Sverdlovsk bearing plant of the Automotive Industry Ministry; chipboard at the Kostopol combine of the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood Processing Industry in Rovno oblast; and crockery at the China plant in the city of Tursunzade in the Tajik SSR.

Capacities for the production of ethylene were commissioned back in the first half of 1982 at the Kazan Orgsintez association of the USSR Chemical Industry Ministry, as were capacities for metal-working tools at the Khrapunovskiy tool plant of the Ministry of Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry in Moscow Oblast. However, production has still not been organized at those installations.

At its 9 February 1983 session the USSR Council of Ministers drew the attention of a number of ministries and departments to serious shortcomings in work on the leadership of subordinate enterprises. They were instructed to ensure the strengthening of state, production and labor discipline in every work sector; considerably reduce losses of worktime; increase production and improve the quality of output; step up the policy of saving material, financial and labor resources; and instill proper order in the work of enterprises, organizations and establishments engaged in serving working people. Special attention must be paid to the need to improve labor productivity through the broad introduction of scientific and technological achievements and progressive experience into production.

IRKUTSK OBKOM ON AGRICULTURAL 'SHORTCOMINGS'

PM241101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 83 First Edition p 2

[PRAVDA correspondent V. Yermolayev report: "When Responsibility is Slackened: From the Irkutsk CPSU Obkom Plenum"]

[Text] Irkutsk [date not given] -- The Angara Region has vast natural wealth. Irkutsk Oblast occupies a prominent place in the country as regards aluminum and cellulose production, timber procurement and coal extraction. The power industry and petrochemicals are gathering speed.

But what about the development of agriculture, which is called upon to supply the rapidly growing population of the Taiga Region with food products? Unfortunately, laggardness has been allowed to occur in the sector. This was the subject of a searching discussion yesterday at an Irkutsk CPSU Obkom Plenum, which discussed the tasks of Angara Region Communists in developing agriculture in the light of the decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums.

Keynote speaker N. Bannikov, first secretary of the party obkom, and those who spoke in the debate noted that the state is giving great assistance in strengthening the material and technical base of agriculture in the Angara Region. Since the CPSU Central Committee March (1965) plenum R2.5 billion in capital investments has been channeled here, including more than R1 billion in the 10th 5-Year Plan. The people of Irkutsk have received 50-100 percent more capital investments per unit of agricultural land than neighboring krays and oblasts. The production capital of kolkhozes and sovkhozes here has increased by 340 percent, and power capacities by 180 percent. Over this period deliveries of mineral fertilizers have increased by nearly 150 percent....

What is the return on investments? The following figures, in particular, were quoted in the report: The total area of agricultural land has increased by 169,000 hectares, including an increase of 132.000 hectares of arable land. A specialized sector -- poultry farming -- has been created, and egg production has almost quadrupled. New hothouses have been built, and nearly seven times as many vegetables are now grown in them.

But, it was noted at the plenum, the return on this substantial expenditure is extremely low. In the last three 5-year plans capital investments have increased by 120 percent, While average annual production of output has increased only insignificantly. Substantial resources are spent on shipping in food which could be produced locally.

The major shortcomings in the sector's development are due first and foremost to the fact that the Irkutsk CPSU Obkom has slackened its leadership of agriculture and its struggle to increase its efficiency. The obkom bureau has not paid due attention to instruction from directive organs, remarks made by communists at meetings, plenums and conferences and criticism in the press. In particular, a serious analysis of the shortcomings tolerated in the oblast's agriculture was given in the report "The Seventh Decision" (PRAVDA, 27 September 1980). The obkom bureau then acknowledged the criticism to be justified, but as practice showed, it failed to draw the necessary conclusions. Leaders of the oblast party organization and many city and rayon party organizations fail to analyze in depth and assess self-critically the state of affairs in the sector. The level of organizational and political work fails in many respects to accord with the demands of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums.

N. Bannikov, first secretary of the party obkom, acknowledged the justification for critical observations directed at him for failing to ensure efficient, harmonious and principled work by the bureau and departing from the principle of collective leadership. This lessens the responsibility of party, soviet and economic organs for the state of the oblast's agroindustrial complex. It is hardly surprising that many leaders fail to assess the situation self-critically and seek to embellish it.

Here is a typical example. The obkom bureau recently discussed the question of organizational and political activity in the wintering of livestock in Bayandayevskiy Rayon. The report delivered by Raykom First Secretary I. Romanov was not discussed beforehand at the raykom bureau. The report spoke at length of numerous measures but had nothing to say about the end results: milk yields fell sharply and the target for meat purchases was not met.

The oblast has not devoted the necessary attention to the basis sector of agriculture -- arable farming. As a result the material base for seed raising, the application of chemicals and fodder production lags behind. A scientifically substantiated soil protection system is being introduced only slowly.

The Angara Region, it was noted at the plenum, has the necessary natural and economic conditions for the sector's intensive development. The practice of leading farms shows convincingly that good results can be achieved in East Siberia. Thus on the Primorskiy Sovkhoz the introduction of a soil protection system made it possible to increase the yield from grain crops from 7 to 18 quintals per hectare. But the frontrunners' experience is being disseminated extremely slowly.

There are many omissions in livestock raising too. The productivity of livestock and poultry has fallen. The milk yield per cow has fallen by 431 kg over 4 years. The problem is that the fodder base is lagging behind.

Miscalculations have been allowed to occur in production specialization and concentration. People in the Angara Region enthusiastically set about building large-scale livestock complexes without providing for full supplies of fodder for the livestock. So at many complexes the animals' productivity is much lower than at ordinary livestock units. It is time, the plenum participants said, to go over to the planned construction of optimum livestock premises, the modernization of old ones and to increase the level of mechanization of labor. Positive experience has been accumulated in Tulupskiy, Alarskiy and a number of other rayons, but it has not yet become the guide for all the oblast's working people.

It is planned to create large-scale agricultural projects in the next few years near Irkutsk, Bratsk, Ust-Ilimsk and Sayansk. But there is not yet an adequate base for obtaining milk and other produce in the newly opened up regions of the Baykal-Amur railroad and the Bratsk-Ust-Ilimsk territorial production complex.

In the Angara Region, it was stated at the plenum, economic work on kolkhozes and sovkhozes leaves something to be desired and cadres' sense of responsibility for the introduction of autonomous financing is low. Only 10 percent of teams in arable farming work by the contract method, and only 3 percent in livestock raising. Not enough is being done to strengthen labor discipline, V. Krastylev, director of the Alarskiy Sovkhoz, noted.

N. Agarkov, first secretary of Ust-Orda Party Okruzhkom; N. Osipovskiy, first secretary of Irkutskiy CPSU Raykom; and others spoke of the slow rates of social transformation of the countryside. Not enough housing is being built, and plans of the commissioning of schools, hospitals, clubs, children's institutions and consumer services enterprises are not being fulfilled. This is having a negative effect as regards retaining cadres on farms.

The obkom and many other party committees are called upon to show more concern for increasing the militancy of party organizations and stepping up the communists' role in collectives. It is disturbing that shop party organizations and party groups are in operation at only 290 out of 1,235 livestock units.

Party committees do not do sufficient work with cadres. In the last 6 years the majority of kolkhoz chairmen and nearly two-thirds of sovkhoz directors have been replaced.

The main specialists have been replaced on one farm in three. At the plenum keen criticism for insufficient concern for cadres was leveled at P. Mosyagin and V. Romanov, deputy chairmen of the oblispolkom; P. Miroshnikov, secretary of the CPSU obkom; V. Sudarkin, chief of a party obkom section; N. (?Levada), chief of the oblast agriculture directorate; and V. Sukharev and A. Chernov, secretaries of party raykoms.

It cannot be said that the party obkom, gorkom and raykoms are concerned only intermittently with rural problems. It was reported that in 6 years the obkom has adopted about (?360) resolutions on questions of the sector's development, but poor monitoring has meant that most of them have remained unfulfilled.

The plenum proposed that the party obkom radically improve its leadership of the sector and channel the efforts of party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations, economic organs and all labor collectives into the implementation of the decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums and the country's Food Program. It is a most important task for the oblast party organization to improve food supplies to the population.

The opinion of participants in the plenum was unanimous: It is necessary to establish harmonious, collective work by the obkom bureau and apparatus, increase the competence of party leadership of the oblast's agroindustrial complex and ensure a sharp turn toward intensive farming methods.

In accordance with the party's demands, it is necessary to resolutely reorganize the style and methods of leadership, devoting special attention to organizational work locally and to strengthening the monitoring and verification of execution of decisions. It is proposed that better use be made of the Angara Region's industrial potential in order to ensure the accelerated resolution of economic and social tasks in the countryside. It is necessary to secure improved labor productivity and work quality, and ensure the unconditional fulfillment of targets for the production of arable and livestock products and their sale to the state.

The plenum was addressed by I. Kapustyan, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture Department.

AGRICULTURE MAKING 'NOTICEABLE' PROGRESS

LD242247 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Feb 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Excerpt] The experience of leading collectives is convincing evidence that high results are achieved through initiative and a thrifty attitude toward work on the part of every livestock farmer. By mobilizing reserves, most farms have made noticeable and positive progress in developing the industry. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes have increased both the number of animals and animal production. For example, milk procurement increased by 15 percent throughout the country in January, compared with the first month of last year; egg procurement increased by 6 percent.

The USSR Central Statistical Administration has told us the meaning of 1 percent throughout the country: a 1 percent increase in milk production means more than 31,000 tons; a 1 percent increase in meat production means 14,200 tons; a 1 percent increase in egg production means 40 million eggs.

SOVIET UNION LAUNCHES 'COSMOS-1442' SATELLITE

LD251625 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 25 TASS -- The regular articial earth satellite "Cosmos-1442" was launched into orbit today in the Soviet Union.

The statellite carries scientific equipment for the continuation of the study of outer space.

The initial period of revolution of the satellite is 89.6 minutes, the maximum distance from the earth's surface is 364 kilometres, the minimum distance is 180 kilometres, the inclination of the orbit is 67.2 degress.

The equipment installed aboard the satellite is functioning normally.

SEVENTH 1983 EARTHQUAKE REPORTED IN TAJIKISTAN

LD270727 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] Today at 0208 local time there was an earthquake in Tajikistan. The epicenter was 180 km from the capital of the republic, in the region of Garm. The quake's force is estimated at 4-5 points. In Dushanbe, Komsomolabad, Nurek, Fayzabad and Khorog it was 3 points. As reported to our correspondent at the Dushanbe seismic station, this is the seventh perceptible earthquake in the republic this year.

BRIEFS

ANTIPOLLUTION PROGRAM -- A comprehensive program entitled "Atmosphere" has been established to study air pollution in Moscow and take practical measures to improve the air. The program was established by more than 40 research institutes, production associations and enterprises. It has been reported that the amount of pollutants ejected into the air has been reduced by 600,000 tons in the last few years. Today, two-thirds of the pollutants are being trapped. Some 2,500 dust and gas traps have been built and rebuilt in Moscow. New pollution-control installations have been put into operation at four big enterprises. The Moscow Control Center, with a ramified network of observation posts, has been set up. Altogether, there are 60 such posts, both stationary, and mobile. Special instruments take air samples and constantly register the amounts of sulphur, carbon dioxide, dust and hydrocarbons. [Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 25 Feb 83 LD]

SOVIET-MONGOLIAN TELEVISION COOPERATION -- Ulaanbaatar: A new Orbita ground/space communications system has begun operating in northern Mongolia, built with technical cooperation of the Soviet Union. Programs of Mongol television and Soviet television broadcasts will be relayed via the station to that region of the republic. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 20 Feb 83 LD]

NEW SOVIET SUB MISSILE SUCCESSFULLY TESTED

NC251758 Paris AFP in English 1754 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Paris, Feb 25 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union successfully test-fired four new SS-NX-20 missiles from the giant Sierra-type nuclear submarine last October 14, according to the latest edition of the British naval encyclopedia, "Jane's."

"Jane's" said the new missiles, with a range of 9,250 kms (5,780 miles) and 12 nuclear warheads each, were fired at far-off and separate targets.

This new missiles, which may use solid combustible fuel, will be in operation aboard the Sierra by the end of 1983, "Jane's" added.

The prototype 18,000 deplacement-ton Sierra submarine with a titanium reinforced bow, enabling it to plunge to great depths, is planned to be armed with 24 SSN-18 target-guided nuclear missiles, each with seven warheads and a range of 7,500 kms (4,750 miles).

This missile, now outclassed by the SS-NX-20, is 14.10 metres (15 yards) by 1,80 metres (two yards) in diameter and was considered one of the Soviet Navy's largest strategic missiles.

The first test-firings took place in 1975 and it is now operational aboard the 13 Delta-type nuclear submarines in service. A 14th Delta submarine is at present undergoing trials and more are under construction.

"Jane's" lists the present Soviet fleet of nuclear submarines as:

Eight 5,400 ton Hotel-II-type craft each with three SSN-5 missiles.

One 6,100 ton Hotel-III type with six SSN-8 missiles.

34 9,300 ton Yankee-I-types with 16 SSN-6 missiles.

One 9,300 ton Yankee-II-type with 12 SS-NX-17 missiles.

18 10,000 ton Delta-I craft with 12 SSN-8 missiles.

Four 11,000 ton Delta-II's with 16 SSN-8 missiles.

13 11,000 ton Delta-III's with 16 SSN-18 missiles.

One 18,000 ton Sierra with 24 SSN-18 missiles which will be replaced by the SS-NX-20 missiles.

In all a total of 80 nuclear submarines and 1,074 missiles when the 24 new missiles for the Sierra are in operation.

TEXT OF USTINOV ANNIVERSARY ORDER OF DAY

PM240145 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[USSR Defense Minister "Order of the Day" No 45]

[Text] Moscow, 23 February 1983 -- Comrade soldiers and sailors, sergeants and petty officers!

Comrade ensigns and warrant officers!

Comrade officers, generals and admirals!

Comrade veterans of the Soviet Armed Forces!

Today the Soviet people and the USSR Armed Forces servicemen celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy.

Soviet people are greeting this notable date in the atmosphere of a new upsurge of political and labor activeness generated by the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. The working people of our multinational motherland, are by their selfless labor, successfully implementing the historic decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums. Socialist competition for the fulfillment of the plans of the 11th 5-Year Plan has acquired nationwide scope.

The Soviet state firmly and consistently pursues a Leninist foreign policy aimed at safeguarding lasting peace and defending the peoples' right to independence and social progress. The new peace initiatives of the USSR and the other socialist community countries have been approved and supported by all progressive mankind.

However, through the fault of the U.S. imperialist circles and their allies the international situation is becoming increasingly complex and the threat of war, primarily the nuclear threat, is intensifying.

Under these conditions the Communist Party is taking the necessary steps to safeguard the country's security and raise Soviet people's vigilance.

The Army and Navy servicemen, boundlessly devoted to the Communist Party, motherland and people, are tirelessly perfecting their combat skill and combat readiness. Closely serried around the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee and Central Committee Politburo, they are vigilantly standing guard over the sacred borders of our motherland. The USSR Armed Forces, in single combat formation with the armies of the Warsaw Pact states, are worthily fulfilling their patriotic and international duty.

Comrade Army and Navy servicemen!

Comrade veterans of the Armed Forces!

I congratulate you on the nationwide holiday -- Soviet Army and Navy day!

I wish the entire Armed Forces personnel new successes in combat and political training, the mastering of the weapons and combat equipment entrusted to them, the consolidation of discipline and organization, and the raising of their vigilance and combat readiness.

To mark the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy I order:

That on 23 February 1983 at 2100 hours local time festive firework displays be held in the capital of our motherland, the Hero City of Moscow; the capitals of the union republics, the Hero Cities of Leningrad, Volgograd, Odessa, Sevastopol, Novorossiysk, Kerch, and Tula and the Hero Fortress of Brest; and the cities of Kaliningrad, Lvov, Rostov Na Donu, Kuybyshev, Sverdlovsk, Novosibirsk, Chita, Khabarovsk, Vladivostok and Sveromorsk.

Long live the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy!

Long live the heroic Soviet people and their valiant Armed Forces!

Glory to the CPSU -- the inspirer and organizer of all our victories!

Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR Defense minister

YEPISHEV SIGNS RESERVE GENERAL'S OBITUARY

PM271931 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[Obituary of I.M. Gurinov]

[Excerpts] Colonel General of Artillery (Reserve) Ivan Mikhaylovich Gurinov, veteran of the Great Patriotic War, has died suddenly.

A loyal son of the Soviet people, who devoted all his strength and knowledge to selfless service to the motherland and to the cause of the Communist Party, of which he was a member from 1943, departed this life.

I.M. Gurinov was born the son of a metalworker in Dnepropetrovsk on 16 December 1920.

A.A. Yepishev, A.I. Koldunov, S.A. Bobylev, A.N. Soshnikov, Ye.S. Yurasov, S.F. Romanov, Yu.T. Chesnokov, V.B. Bochkov, A.G. Smirnov, N.D. Grebennikov, Yu.V. Votintsev, N.I. Moskvitelev, A.I. Khyupenen, M.T. Beregovoy, V.N. Abramov, L.M. Leonov, M.F. Bobkov, I.M. Maltsev, A.U. Konstaninov, V.A. Ponomarev and Ye.A. Sizov.

CONFERENCE OF MILITARY TRIBUNAL CHAIRMEN HELD

PM271935 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Feb 83 Second Edition p 2

[Report by Colonel Justice S. Morozov: "Conference of Military Judges"]

[Text] A conference of chairmen of military district, groups of forces and fleet military tribunals has been held. The reports of Lieutenant General Justice S.S. Maksimov, chief of the Military Tribunal Directorate, and Lt Gen Justice G.I. Bushuyev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court Military Cases Collegium, analyzed the work of military courts in the light of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum decisions. Colonel General M.G. Sobolev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, addressed the conference.

Taking part in the conference were V.I. Terebilov, USSR justice minister; S.I. Gusev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Court; Col Gen Justice A.G. Gornyy, chief military procurator; and executives of the CPSU Central Committee and a number of ministers and departments.